

# Kansas AVIATION

## Kansas Aviation Economic Impact Study



### THE KANSAS AIRPORT SYSTEM

There is a strong relationship between Kansas' economy and aviation. The state's system of eight commercial service and 132 general aviation airports serves as an integral connection between Kansas businesses and residents and the ever-expanding global economy. Airports in Kansas help to both lead and sustain growth and economic diversification. Airports are important economic catalysts, supporting thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic activity. Most of Kansas' largest employers, as well as many smaller businesses, rely on the state's aviation system to reliably transport employees, customers, supplies, and products to and from their operations. Kansas' airports serve as the base of operations for a variety of businesses, including airlines, air cargo companies, flight instructors, charters, concessionaires, government entities, and many others. Kansas' tourism industry also depends on the state's system of airports to accommodate thousands of visitors each year.

### STUDY PROCESS

The Kansas Department of Transportation, Division of Aviation, commissioned this Federal Aviation Administration funded study to examine the relationship between the state's system of airports and the economy. The study follows an approved methodology that has successfully quantified the value of airports and airport systems throughout the United States.

The economic contribution of each airport in the Kansas airport system was measured in terms of employment, payroll, and output. Through a comprehensive survey process, the direct economic benefits related to on-airport businesses and government tenants, and the indirect benefits associated with visitor-related expenditures, were calculated for each airport. The multiplier effect of these airport activities was also calculated using multipliers that are specific to Kansas. For example, when an airport employee purchases local goods and services, that spending and re-spending generates additional economic activity in the region. The total economic impact is the sum of all direct, indirect, and multiplier impacts.

### STATEWIDE IMPACTS

When all of the impacts of Kansas' 140 airports are added together, 47,651 total jobs can be traced to the aviation industry. These employees receive more than \$2.3 billion in total payroll, and generate nearly \$10.4 billion in total economic activity. In addition, Kansas' airports provide a number of health, welfare, and safety benefits, the impacts including aerial agricultural spraying, medical transport and evacuation, flight training, law enforcement, wildlife management, military exercises, and search and rescue operations.

#### *Kansas' Total Annual Economic Benefits from Aviation*

Total Jobs	<b>47,651</b>
Total Payroll	<b>\$2.3 BILLION</b>
Total Output	<b>\$10.4 BILLION</b>

### IMPACT MEASURES

**Employment** measures the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs related to airport activity including on-airport construction. A part-time employee counts as half a full-time employee.

**Payroll** measures the total annual wages and benefits paid to all workers whose salaries are directly attributable to airport activity.

**Economic Activity (Output)** measures the value of goods and services related to airports in Kansas. The output of on-airport businesses is typically assumed to be the sum of annual gross sales and average annual capital expenditures.

# CAPT. JACK THOMAS (EQA)

Captain Jack Thomas Airport is located three miles southeast of El Dorado in southeastern Kansas. El Dorado, located approximately 25 miles east of Wichita, is the most populous city and county seat of Butler County. The airport is included in the FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS), making it eligible to receive federal funds. The airport's role within the Kansas Aviation System Plan is identified as a Business airport, which is intended to accommodate local business activities and general aviation users.

The airport has one concrete runway and one asphalt runway, both 4,200 feet long by 75 feet wide with non-precision instrument approaches at both ends. Weibe Air Repair operates as the airport's full service fixed base operator, providing fuel service, aircraft rentals, charters, flight training, avionics repair, maintenance, lines services, and courtesy transportation. Peterson's Performance Plus, which specializes in building custom short take off and landing aircraft, as well as modifying existing aircraft structures, is also located at the airport. The airport supports a number of local industries including but not limited to business, aerospace, healthcare, specialty vehicle manufacturing, grocery distribution, mining, and food processing.



## CAPT. JACK THOMAS



## IMPACT TYPES

**First Round Impacts** include both direct and indirect impacts. Direct impacts are those benefits associated with on-airport businesses and government tenants. Indirect impacts generally take place off-airport and are usually attributable to visitor spending.

**Second Round Impacts** consist of induced impacts, which are those benefits that result from the re-circulation and re-spending of direct and indirect impacts within the economy. This re-circulation is commonly referred to as the "multiplier effect."

**Total Impacts** are the combination of all first-round and second-round impacts.