



WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AERONAUTICS DIVISION

GILLETTE - NORTHEAST WYOMING REGIONAL AIRPORT

STATEWIDE ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

In 2020, the Aeronautics Division of the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) published a study documenting the economic impacts of nine commercial and 25 general aviation public-use airports in Wyoming. All 34 study airports have paved runways. The study estimated each airport's statewide and local economic impacts considering activity associated with airport management, airport business tenants, average annual capital investment, and all visitors who arrive by air. Economic activity reported for the airport and the state is the sum of payroll and spending. Commercial service airports have impacts that stem from all facets of aviation. For the study, analysis was undertaken to isolate the annual economic impact associated exclusively with each airport's commercial airline functions. Information below shows the airport's total annual economic impact, along with the impact that is related to just the airport's commercial airline function.



VISITORS: 29,274 | 12,218



SPENDING: \$23.0M | \$12.4M



EMPLOYMENT: 339 | 204



ECONOMIC ACTIVITY: \$34.6M | \$19.0M



PAYROLL: \$11.7M | \$6.5M



STATE/LOCAL TAX REVENUE: \$1.3M | \$786,020

● TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS ● IMPACTS FROM COMMERCIAL AIRLINE FUNCTIONS

ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDIES ARE SNAPSHOTS IN TIME; THEY REFLECT CONDITIONS AT THE TIME STUDY DATA GATHERING IS COMPLETED. ALL AIRPORT AND STATEWIDE ECONOMIC IMPACTS SHOWN IN THIS REPORT REFLECT PRE-COVID CONDITIONS.

STATEWIDE ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT FOR GILLETTE - NORTHEAST WYOMING REGIONAL AIRPORT

| | EMPLOYMENT | PAYROLL | SPENDING | ECONOMIC ACTIVITY |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Airport Management | 18 | \$1,052,600 | \$1,363,000 | \$2,415,600 |
| Business Tenants | 74 | \$3,518,800 | \$8,028,800 | \$11,547,600 |
| Average Annual Capital Investment | 16 | \$665,400 | \$2,547,100 | \$3,212,500 |
| General Aviation Visitor Expenditures | 81 | \$2,284,900 | \$3,382,600 | \$5,667,500 |
| Commercial Visitor Expenditures | 150 | \$4,132,100 | \$7,636,600 | \$11,768,700 |
| Total Impacts | 339 | \$11,653,800 | \$22,958,100 | \$34,611,900 |

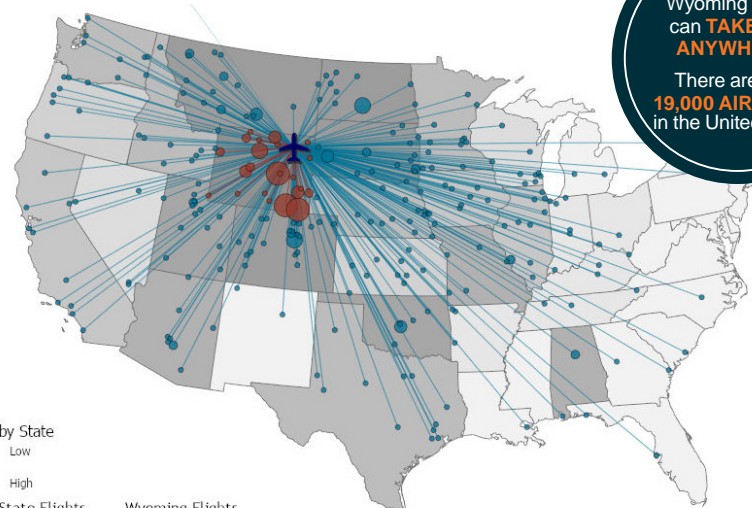
NOTE: MORE DETAIL ON THE AIRPORT'S ECONOMIC IMPACT ESTIMATES CAN BE FOUND IN THE TECHNICAL REPORT AT WWW.DOT.STATE.WY.US/HOME/AERONAUTICS.HTML



FLIGHTS TO AND FROM GILLETTE - NORTHEAST WYOMING REGIONAL AIRPORT PROVIDE IMPORTANT CONNECTIVITY FOR RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, AND VISITORS.

A flight from the airport can take you just about anywhere in the United States and even to international destinations. Data shown here is derived from the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) National Offload Program database. Flights shown here are those that operate on a non-stop basis to and from **Gillette - Northeast Wyoming Regional Airport**; FAA data does not record all flights that operate to and from the airport.

The airport supports a wide variety of users. Flights reflected here support business users, flights associated with Wyoming's many tourist destinations, and flights that support a variety of healthcare needs.



Flights by State
 Low High
 Out of State Flights High Low Frequency
 Wyoming Flights High Low Frequency

A flight from a Wyoming airport can **TAKE YOU ANYWHERE!**
 There are over **19,000 AIRPORTS** in the United States

Data Source: FAA Traffic Flight Management System (TFMS), CY 2018
 Flight Frequency Normalized to Total Flights From Each Study Airport

WYOMING AVIATION - CONNECTING WYOMING, BUILDING OUR FUTURE

There is a good chance the airport supports activities that you benefit from. Airports support healthcare and emergency services. Airports support the state's agricultural and forestry industries and power companies rely on airports to keep electricity flowing. State and federal agencies use airports to protect the environment, and law enforcement benefits from airports. Businesses throughout Wyoming rely on airports to improve their efficiency. Examples of how **Gillette - Northeast Wyoming Regional Airport** benefits our community follow.



Business and Agency Use: Local and visiting businesses use both scheduled commercial airline flights and general aviation aircraft to improve their efficiency. Aviation is an important business tool, increasing business efficiency in many ways. The airport helps businesses expand their market areas, reduce travel time for their employees from days to hours, and bring in just-in-time deliveries of parts and supplies. The airport also supports visiting business travel; customers and suppliers of local companies can conveniently reach Gillette via the airport. Examples of businesses who rely on the airport include Kroger/Smith Food & Drug, Gem City Real Estate, Tyvo Drilling, and Basin Electric Power. Given drive times in the state, especially during challenging weather conditions, many state agencies also rely on general aviation travel. Examples of some agencies that rely on the airport include the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming Division of Criminal Justice, the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, and the WYDOT's Environmental Services Division. Multiple groups use Gillette as a base when conducting game counts contracted through the Wyoming Game and Fish. Game and Fish uses these counts to set seasonal quotas, as well as keep track of protected species such as eagles. Environmental companies that use the airport include HWA Wildlife Consulting, SWCA Environmental Consultants, Grouse Mountain Environmental, Western EcoSystems Technology, TRC Environmental Group, and Great Plains Wildlife Consulting. By accommodating business and agency users, the airport supports the area's economy and many local jobs.



Aerial Firefighting: Wyoming averages about 600 wildfires each year which are a potential threat to Wyoming residents and businesses and their property. Various agencies are responsible for monitoring fire conditions, coordinating any response to an actual fire, and using aircraft to fight fires. The Wyoming Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service have both used the airport for aerial firefighting. When fires are active, the Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT) base at the airport becomes operational. During fire season in the summer and fall months, agencies are active at the airport for weeks at a time. By supporting this activity, the airport provides an important service for area property owners.



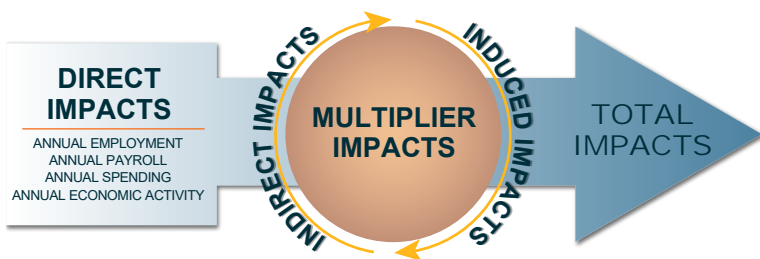
Healthcare and Emergency Services: Gillette-Northeast Wyoming Regional Airport supports healthcare needs for Gillette residents. Physicians such as those with Wyoming Neurologic Associates and Premier Bone and Joint fly to Gillette to see patients. The airport is also served by several air ambulance operators. These companies provide airlift services to both critical and non-critical patients needing advanced medical services or trauma care. These operators transport patients to larger hospitals in nearby states. Air ambulance providers who operated at the airport include Guardian Flight, Air Life, Billings Clinic Med Flight, Air Methods, and Medical Air. Gillette-Northeast Wyoming Regional Airport plays an important role in helping to provide diversified and advanced healthcare and emergency services for residents, and the airport helps to support these services.



Tourism/Hunting and Fishing: Gillette lies in northeast Wyoming. To the west are the Black Hills and to the east is the Powder River Basin. The Belle Fourche River and Little Powder River are the main waterways in the Gillette area. The area has abundant fishing opportunities for fly fishing. Keyhole Reservoir is this area's best-known fishing spot. Wildlife in the Gillette area famously outnumber the residents, and this area has some of the highest densities of antelope anywhere. Robust whitetail, and mule deer populations also characterize the area. Annually, the state has an estimated 120,000 hunters, of which more than 80 percent are visitors. Hunting in Wyoming is a \$300 million industry, and Wyoming's outfitters and guides collect almost \$40 million from visiting hunters. Many visitors come to Wyoming to fish and to observe the state's abundant wildlife. According to the University of Wyoming, visitors who come to Wyoming to fish account for an estimated \$111.6 million in economic activity, and visitors who travel to observe the state's wildlife contribute another \$305 million. Area employers in the hospitality sector rely on the convenient air access that the airport provides. Without air access provided by the airport for both commercial airline and general aviation visitor, travelers could choose to vacation elsewhere.

STUDY PROCESS AND IMPACT MEASURES

In the study, **direct** economic impacts are collected first. Direct impacts are the start of the economic impact cycle. Next, an econometric input/output model is used to estimate **indirect/induced impacts**, also referred to as multiplier impacts. Combined, direct and indirect/induced impacts equal the **total impacts**. For this study, direct, indirect/induced, and total impacts are estimated for **annual employment, payroll, annual spending, and annual economic activity**.



ECONOMIC IMPACT CATEGORIES

Direct, indirect/induced, and total impacts are measured for each category shown below. These impacts are estimated for each airport, as applicable.

| CATEGORY | DESCRIPTION |
|--|--|
| Airport Management | Activities associated with the daily operation of each airport |
| Business Tenants | On-airport aviation-related businesses that generate revenue and have paid employees |
| Capital Investment | Five-year average of annual state, federal, airport, and private investment for airport improvements |
| Commercial Visitor Expenditures | Spending by visitors to Wyoming who arrive on a scheduled commercial airline flight |
| General Aviation Visitor Expenditures | Spending by visitors to Wyoming who arrive on general aviation aircraft |
| State and Local Revenues | Airport-supported sales tax |

TOTAL ANNUAL STATEWIDE ECONOMIC IMPACTS FOR WYOMING'S PUBLIC AIRPORTS

Airport visits, interviews, surveys, and research supported development of the total annual statewide economic impact estimates for all 34 Wyoming public airports. Once total statewide impacts were estimated, additional analysis was completed for the nine commercial airports to determine the portion of statewide economic impacts that are related to just commercial airline functions. Both sets of statewide impacts are presented here.



STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT
21,974

17,167



STATEWIDE PAYROLL
\$941.7M

\$746.1 M



STATEWIDE SPENDING
\$1.1 B

\$760.0 M



STATEWIDE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
\$2.0 B

\$1.5 B



STATE/LOCAL TAX REVENUES
\$87.7 M

\$74.7 M

● TOTAL STATEWIDE ECONOMIC IMPACTS ● TOTAL STATEWIDE IMPACTS FROM COMMERCIAL AIRLINE FUNCTIONS (9 COMMERCIAL SERVICE AIRPORTS ONLY)

