2025 Colorado Aviation ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Individual Airport Economic Impact Report

Harriet Alexander Field (ANK)

Nestled in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, Salida Airport/Harriet Alexander Field (ANK) is a vital airport for Colorado's aviation system. Located in central Colorado and two miles northwest of the Town of Salida, ANK provides majestic views with 14,000-foot peaks of the Upper Arkansas River Valley's west side. ANK serves a diverse range of needs for the local community and beyond. From supporting UPS, aerial medical operations, and firefighting operations to hosting wildlife management and business aviation, the airport plays an integral role in the region. With courtesy cars and exceptional local amenities, ANK remains a cornerstone of regional connectivity and economic development. Alpine Air's five-days-a-week parcel delivery ensures seamless connectivity for local businesses and residents. Additionally, ANK is home to two flight instructors training the next generation of aviators. Corporate and business aviation have seen substantial growth, with regular visits from property developers, business investors, and air charter services like NetJets and Flexjet. The airport's proximity to Salida's vibrant downtown, art district, and outdoor recreation opportunities like mountain biking, rafting, and skiing makes it an attractive destination. ANK also provides crucial support for government agencies conducting wildlife and infrastructure inspections in the region. ANK also engages the community with air shows that draw large crowds, food and commercial vendors, and fly in clubs attending the event.

Top Activities

- Air Cargo
- Flight Training
- Corporate/ Business Activity
- Aerial Inspection
- Recreational Flying



Economic Impacts of

Harriet Alexander Field (ANK)

Harriet Alexander Field is one of 66 public use airports that contribute to the State's aviation economic impact. To understand how ANK and other airports support economic activity, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Division of Aeronautics undertook the 2025 Colorado Aviation Economic Impact Study (CEIS). The study determined that ANK generated the below total economic activity in 2023. Of the $11.7 million of total business revenues generated by ANK, $10.5 million were generated by on-airport activities and $1.2 million generated by visitor spending.[1]

53 total jobs

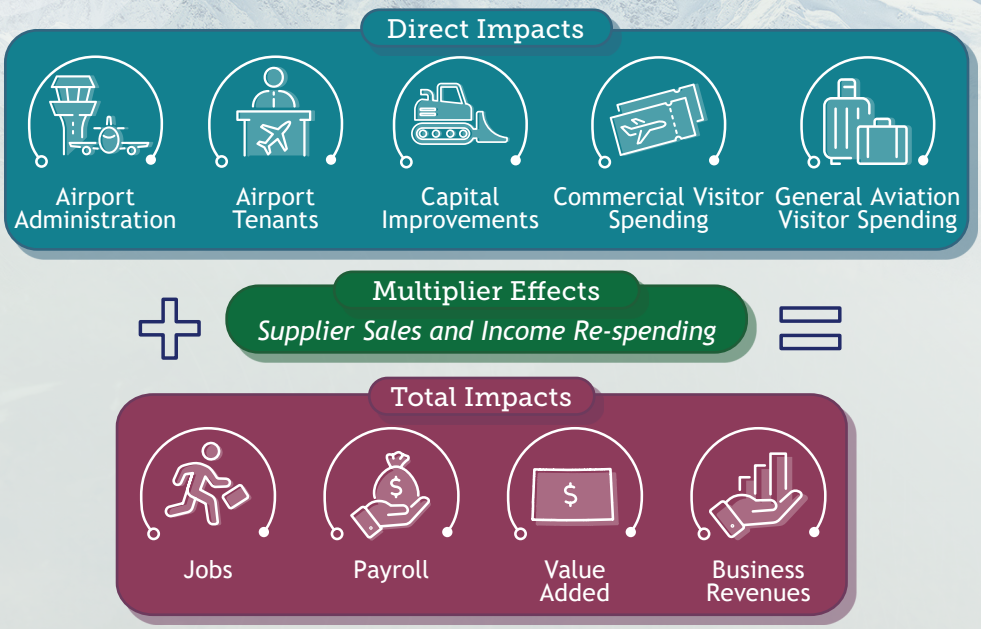
$4.2M total payroll

$6.3M total value added

$11.7M total business revenues

[1] *Totals may not sum due to rounding*

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What is Economic Impact?

Two types of economic impacts are generated as a result of airport activity: Direct Impacts and Multiplier Effects (supplier sales and income re-spending). Direct impacts come from the activities of the airport administration, on-airport tenants, capital improvement spending, and spending by visitors arriving on commercial and general aviation aircraft. Multiplier effects are generated when portions of direct revenues are used to purchase goods and services from Colorado businesses (supplier sales), and when income earned by workers in airport-supported jobs is spent at Colorado businesses (income re-spending). Total Impacts represent the summation of the direct impacts, supplier sales, and income re-spending effects for the state.

Economic Impact Measures

Economic Impacts are communicated by the total jobs, payroll, value added, and business revenues generated by each airport. These are defined as:

Jobs
Total number of people employed, both full-time and part-time.

Payroll
Total employment compensation, including wages, benefits, and taxes paid on behalf of employees.

Value Added
Total contribution to the Gross State Product. It includes all payroll, profits, and business taxes paid.

Business Revenues
Total expenditures for airport administration, capital projects and tenant sales of goods and services, as well as visitor spending in Colorado's hospitality-related sectors. Also referred to as "output," "sales," or "economic activity/impact."

Statewide Aviation Economic Impacts

Colorado's 66 public use airports range from small GA airports to a major international airline hub, all of which contribute to the state's economy. The impacts of on-airport activities and visitor spending associated with each airport, combined with the statewide impacts of off-airport air cargo operations, helped Colorado's aviation system generate $68.9 billion in total economic activity (business revenues) in 2023.

348,466 total jobs

$23.5B total payroll

$40.3B total value added

$68.9B total business revenues

For more information on the Colorado Aviation Economic Impact Study, please visit our webpage at *https://www.coloradoaviationsystem.com/*