2025 Colorado Aviation ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Individual Airport Economic Impact Report

Aspen-Pitkin County (ASE)

Aspen-Pitkin County (ASE) is a commercial service airport that serves both commercial service and general aviation activities offering 11 non-stop destinations through three different carriers. The airport is a gateway to year-round recreational opportunities for visitors from around the globe as well as business travelers that are based in or destined for the region. Travelers fly through ASE to experience world class adventure in the Rocky Mountains including hiking, mountain biking, camping, and skiing or snowboarding. In addition to the frequent recreational travelers, the airport supports critical aviation activities such as search and rescue operations, aerial wildlife response, medical evacuations, and military activity. Due to the airport's unique setting amongst the mountains and high elevation, the airport often supports search and rescue operations and pilot training activities for military operations. The combination of commercial service and diverse general aviation activity makes ASE as a critical facility bolstering the economic impact for the City of Aspen, region, and plays an important role in the state of Colorado.

Top Activities

- Commercial Service
- Corporate/ Business Activity
- Recreational Activities
- Flight Training
- Military Activities



Economic Impacts of

Aspen-Pitkin County (ASE)

Aspen-Pitkin County is one of 66 public use airports that contribute to the State's aviation economic impact. To understand how ASE 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 ASE generated the below total economic activity in 2023. Of the $1.4 billion of total business revenues generated by ASE, $416.8 million were generated by on-airport activities and $934.7 million generated by visitor spending.[1]

7,316 total jobs

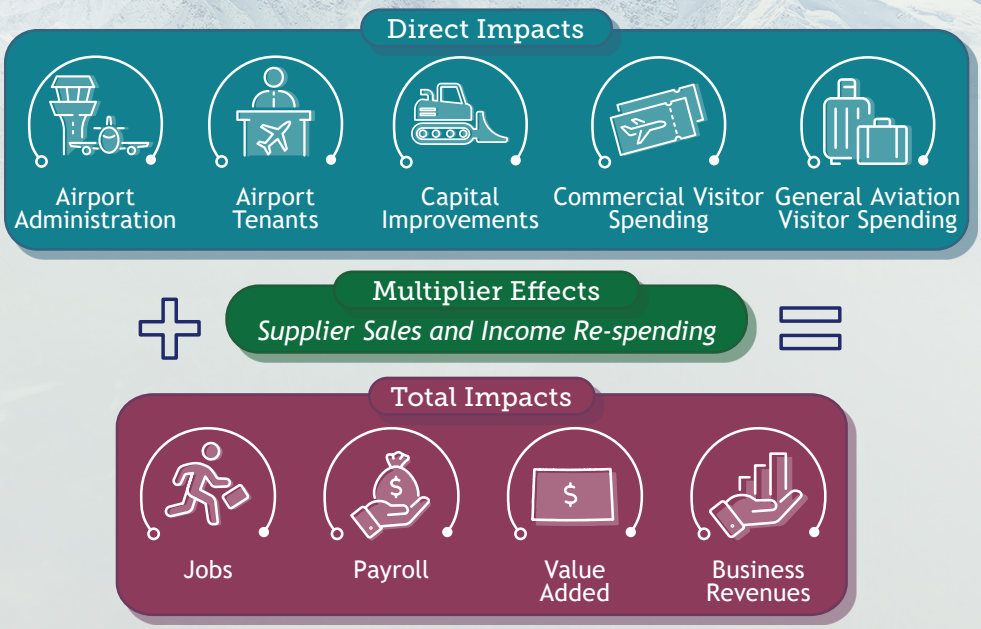
$440.3M total payroll

$826.2M total value added

$1.4B 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/*