2025 Colorado Aviation ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Individual Airport Economic Impact Report

Boulder Municipal (BDU)

Boulder Municipal Airport (BDU) is a general aviation airport that serves the city of Boulder and the surrounding communities. Located three miles northeast of downtown Boulder, BDU is situated in Colorado's front range region and near popular recreational attractions such as the Flatiron Mountain and renowned academic institutions such as the University of Colorado Boulder . The airport serves a variety of critical functions and a wide range of aviation users from emergency medical transportation to flight training, ecological research, recreational flying, corporate activities, and more. The airport is home to an active glider/soaring club with over 150 members and a Civil Air Patrol squadron. In addition to the broad and diverse aviation users, many community events such as Boulder Philharmonic concerts, drive-in movie events, and Boulder Airport Day are also hosted at the airport, demonstrating the value that BDU provides its community. BDU provides a strategic fueling and rest stop for cross country flights traversing Colorado's mountainous regions and serves as a critical link for general aviation communities in the front range region and state.

Top Activities

- Flight Training
- Gliders/ Soaring
- Recreational Flying
- Corporate/ Business Activity
- Aerospace Research



Economic Impacts of

Boulder Municipal (BDU)

Boulder Municipal is one of 66 public use airports that contribute to the State's aviation economic impact. To understand how BDU 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 BDU generated the below total economic activity in 2023. Of the $78.3 million of total business revenues generated by BDU, $69.5 million were generated by on-airport activities and $8.8 million generated by visitor spending.[1]

281 total jobs

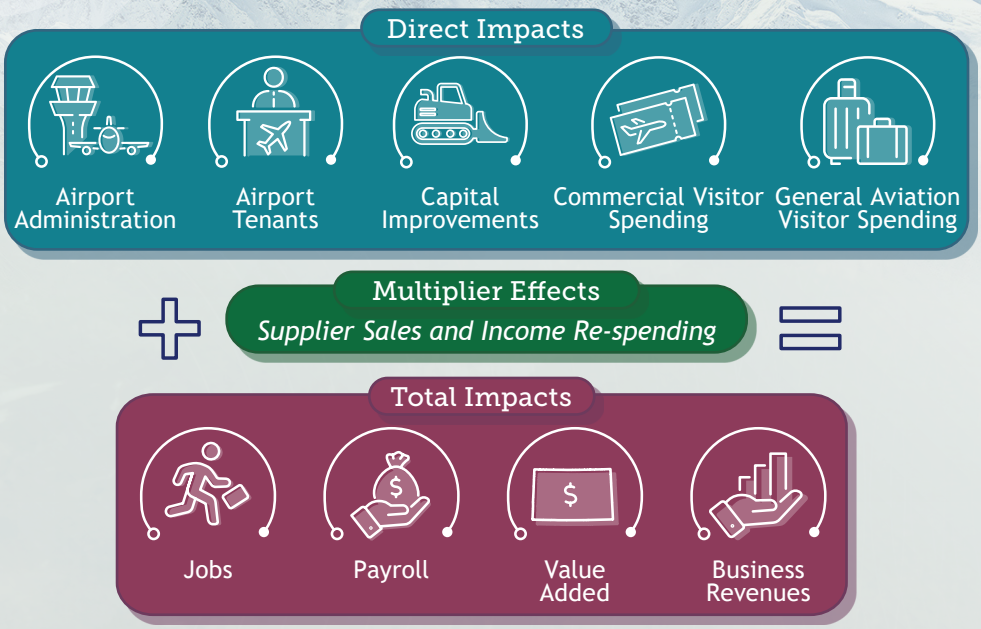
$23.3M total payroll

$43.4M total value added

$78.3M 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/*