2025 Colorado Aviation ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Individual Airport Economic Impact Report

Colorado Springs Municipal (COS)

Colorado Springs Municipal Airport (COS) is a commercial service airport located six miles southeast from the central business district of Colorado Springs, which is the second most populated city in Colorado. The airport is owned and operated by the City of Colorado Springs. COS has three runways that range from 8,269 to 13,501 feet in length and are equipped with precision instrument approaches. COS is the second busiest airport in Colorado in terms of passenger enplanements. The airport serves as the primary commercial service gateway to the Pikes Peak region and offers daily nonstop flights on six carriers to destinations and airline hubs around the country. In addition to providing scheduled air service, the airport supports the needs of the general aviation community as well, with multiple fixed-base operators, fuel sales, maintenance, repair, and overhaul services, and more. Aerial wildland firefighting activity, aerospace manufacturing, and flight training are also supported by the airport. There is also a significant military presence at the airport, as Peterson Space Force Base shares an airfield with COS. The Peterson Space Force Base is the headquarters to the U.S. Air Force Space Command and the base conducts military flight training and other military operations. COS even supports the aviation enthusiast, as it is home to the National Museum of World War II Aviation, which sees hundreds of thousands of visitors a year. COS is a unique airport varied in business activity and aeronautical uses that serves its metro population and region, general aviation community, and the Department of Defense.

Top Activities

- Commercial Service
- Corporate/ Business Activity
- Military Activities
- Aerospace Manufacturing
- Air Cargo



Economic Impacts of

Colorado Springs Municipal (COS)

Colorado Springs Municipal is one of 66 public use airports that contribute to the State's aviation economic impact. To understand how COS 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 COS generated the below total economic activity in 2023. Of the $5.2 billion of total business revenues generated by COS, $4.3 billion were generated by on-airport activities and $876.9 million generated by visitor spending.[1]

34,829 total jobs

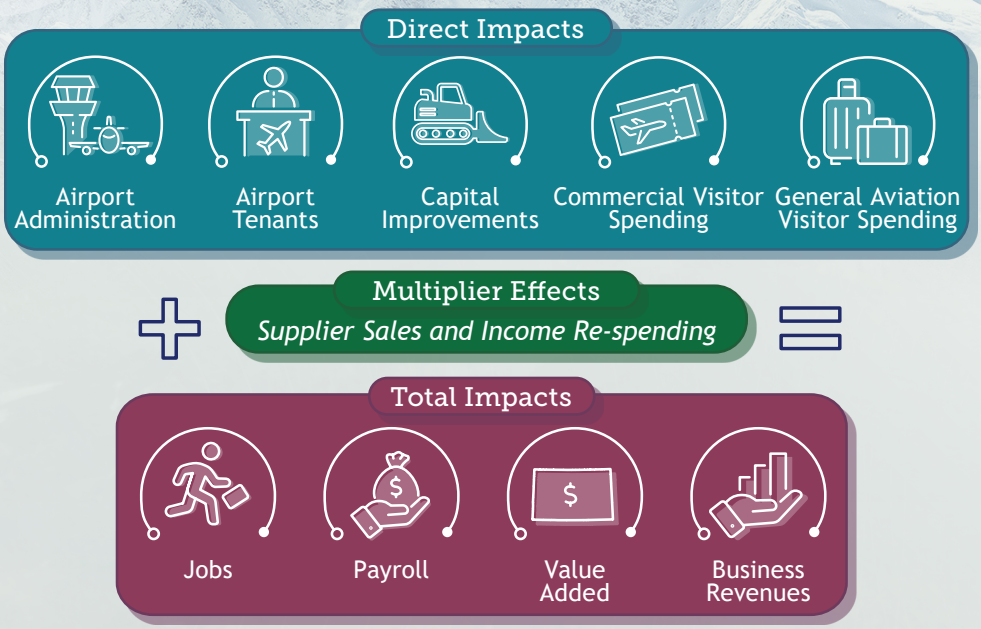
$2.7B total payroll

$3.7B total value added

$5.2B 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/*