2025 Colorado Aviation ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Individual Airport Economic Impact Report

Granby-Grand County (GNB)

Granby-Grand County Airport at Emily Warner Field (GNB) stands as a critical link in Colorado's aviation network and a vital asset to the local community. Named to honor America's first female airline captain, Emily Warner, the airport carries a rich heritage and serves as a symbol of pioneering achievements in aviation. The field's historical significance is further underscored by its connection to Charles Lindbergh, whose visits to the area are commemorated in the nearby Lone Eagle Peak, named after his famous moniker. The closest public use airport west of the metropolitan areas on the Front Range, GNB offers unique advantages. It provides an essential flight training ground for Front Range flight students specializing in mountain flying—a skill crucial for navigating the challenging terrain of the Rockies. This proximity also makes GNB an accessible gateway for Denver residents and visitors heading to Grand County, enhancing regional connectivity and tourism. Moreover, GNB plays an indispensable role in wildfire management. Each summer, the airport becomes a strategic base for the U.S. Forest Service, hosting aerial firefighting crews who are critical in managing and mitigating wildfire threats in north-central Colorado. On several occasions, GNB has simultaneously supported multiple firefighting bases, demonstrating its capacity and strategic importance in emergency response and environmental protection efforts. Through these multifaceted roles, GNB supports aviation and historical preservation, but also significantly contributes to the safety and economic vitality of the region.

Top Activities

- Recreational Flying
- Corporate/ Business Activity
- Flight Training
- Aerial/ Wildland Firefighting
- Aerial Photography/ Survey



Economic Impacts of

Granby-Grand County (GNB)

Granby-Grand County is one of 66 public use airports that contribute to the State's aviation economic impact. To understand how GNB 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 GNB generated the below total economic activity in 2023. Of the $8.4 million of total business revenues generated by GNB, $8.3 million were generated by on-airport activities and $139 thousand generated by visitor spending.[1]

53 total jobs

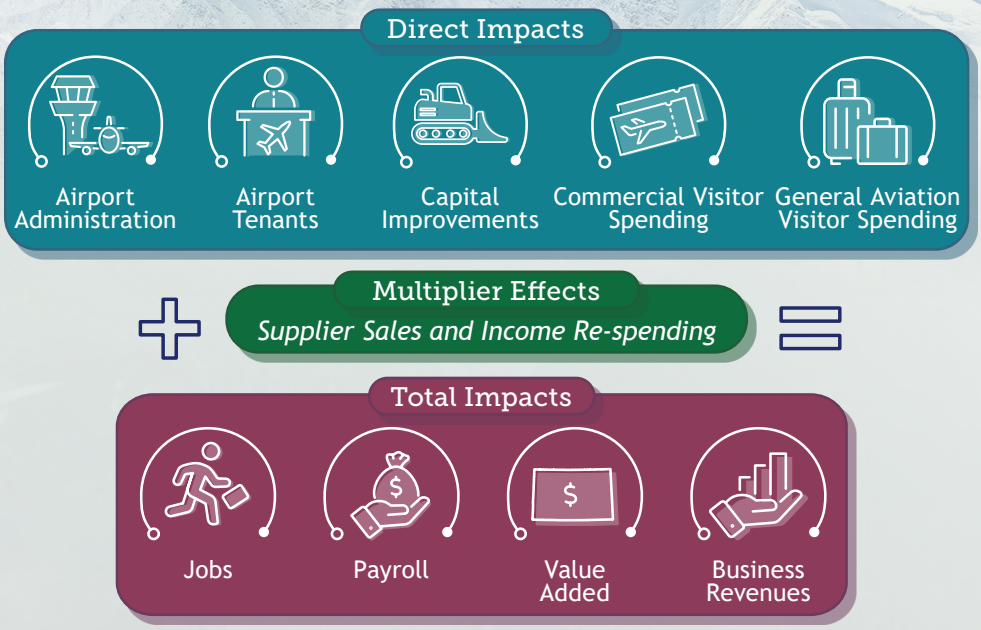
$4.2M total payroll

$5.9M total value added

$8.4M 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/*