2025 Colorado Aviation ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Individual Airport Economic Impact Report

Astronaut Kent Rominger (RCV)

Located in Rio Grande County, Astronaut Kent Rominger Airport (RCV) is essential to local and regional connectivity, supporting a diverse range of activities from aviation to tourism and emergency services. Named after a distinguished local astronaut, RCV enhances access and development in the area by accommodating everything from small private planes to larger business jets with its self-service AvGas and full-service Jet-A fueling facilities. RCV is more than a general aviation hub for pilots and passengers connecting to local homes and businesses but also a critical entry point for tourists drawn to skiing, hunting, and fishing, boosting the local tourism economy. Additionally, the airport is vital for medical and emergency services, hosting Guardian Flight's fixed-wing medical aircraft that provides rapid transport to the Rio Grande Hospital and other medical facilities, crucial for quick patient transfer to specialized care. The airport also serves as an operational base for various private and government entities including Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the U.S. Forest Service, further enhancing its utility. This multifaceted role underscores RCV's importance in supporting both the immediate community and broader regional needs, establishing it as an indispensable asset to Rio Grande County and the state aviation system.

Top Activities

- Aerial Medical Operations
- Aircraft Maintenance
- Recreational Flying
- Corporate/ Business Activity
- Aerial/ Wildland Firefighting



Economic Impacts of

Astronaut Kent Rominger (RCV)

Astronaut Kent Rominger is one of 66 public use airports that contribute to the State's aviation economic impact. To understand how RCV 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 RCV generated the below total economic activity in 2023. Of the $8.2 million of total business revenues generated by RCV, $8.0 million were generated by on-airport activities and $211 thousand generated by visitor spending.[1]

36 total jobs

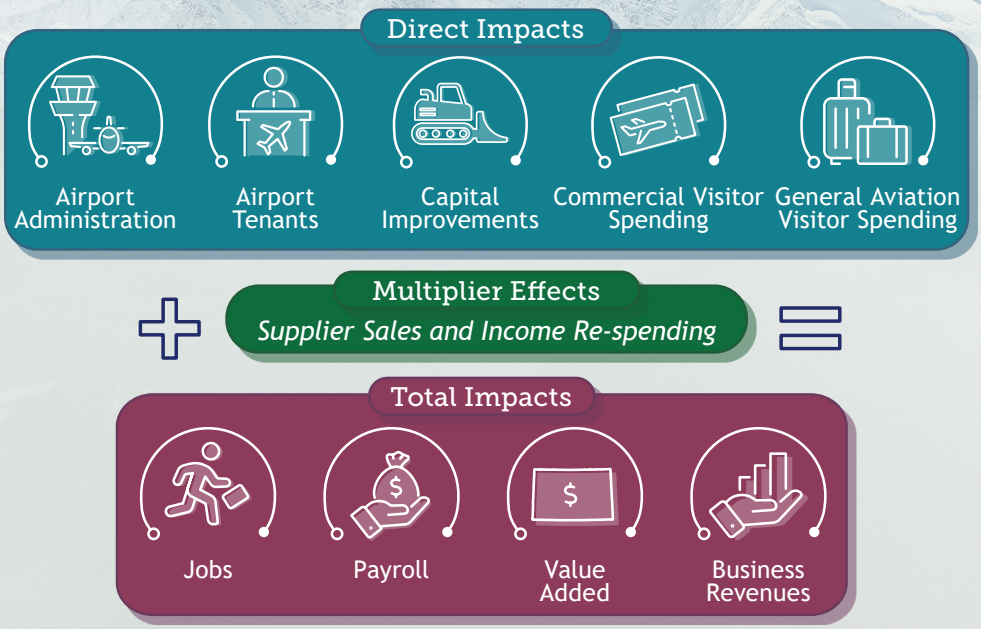
$2.0M total payroll

$3.9M total value added

$8.2M 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/*