# 2025 Colorado Aviation ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Individual Airport Economic Impact Report

## Telluride Regional (TEX)

Perched high in the San Juan Mountains of southwest Colorado, Telluride Regional Airport (TEX) is North America's highest elevation commercial service airport. TEX sits just five miles from historic Downtown Telluride and the world-famous Telluride Ski Resort. As a result, TEX is used by hundreds of thousands of visitors each year to enjoy winter sports, attend film and music festivals, and explore the surrounding region. TEX is also used by many residents who live in Telluride seasonally and rely on the airport to access their homes. The airport is served by jet aircraft offering daily commercial flights to Denver and Phoenix. Additionally, hundreds of business aircraft bring high-profile visitors to the community each year. These aircraft and passengers are served by TEX's top-ranked fixed-base operator which is operated by the Telluride Regional Airport Authority. Beyond the commercial and general aviation visitors, TEX supports high altitude flight testing, air ambulance, and search and rescue activities, contributing additional economic activity and critical services to the community.

## Top Activities

- Commercial Service
- Recreational Activities
- Corporate/ Business Activity
- Flight Testing
- Police/Law Enforcement



*Economic Impacts of*

## Telluride Regional (TEX)

Telluride Regional is one of 66 public use airports that contribute to the State's aviation economic impact. To understand how TEX 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 TEX generated the below total economic activity in 2023. Of the $97.1 million of total business revenues generated by TEX, $43.2 million were generated by on-airport activities and $53.9 million generated by visitor spending.[1]

**571** total jobs

**$31.1M** total payroll

**$57.5M** total value added

**$97.1M** total business revenues

[1] *Totals may not sum due to rounding*

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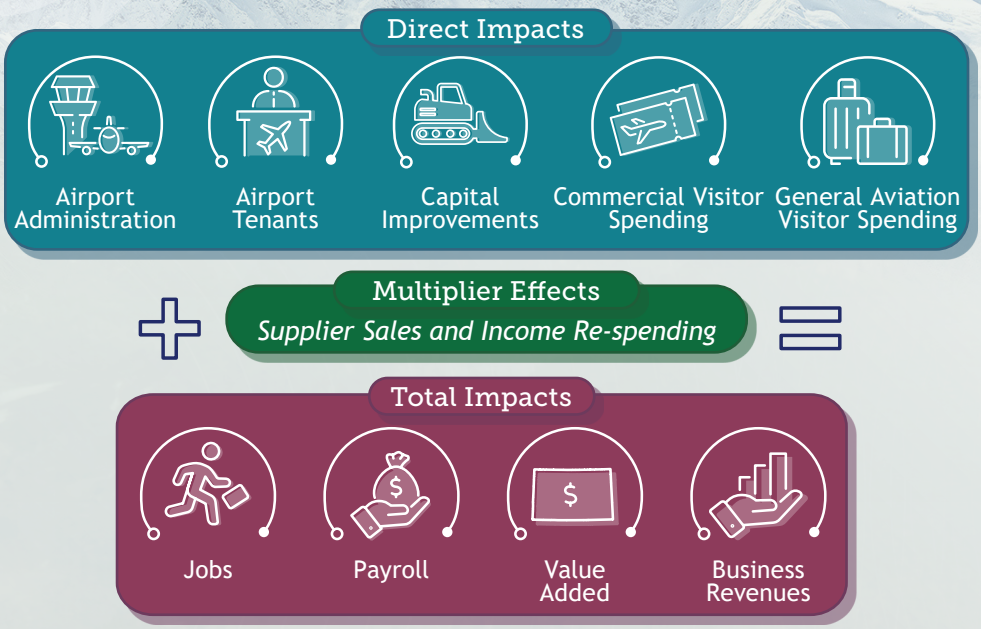


## What is Economic Impact?

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/*