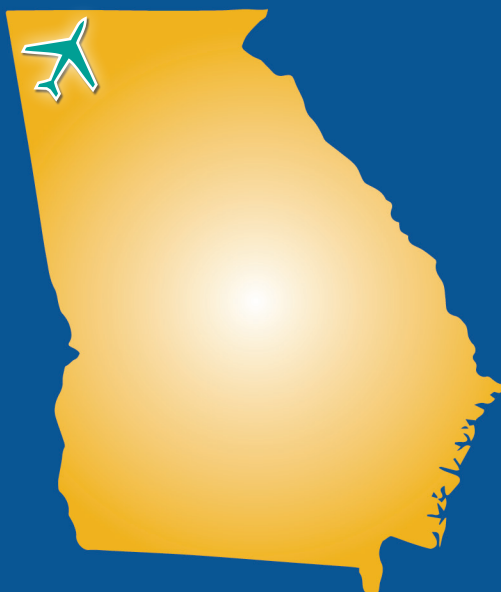




Georgia Department of Transportation



• ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT FOR •  
**BARWICK LAFAYETTE AIRPORT**



September 2020

According to Site Selection Magazine, Georgia is **ranked as the #1 state** for doing business.

## Georgia Airports Mean Business.

Airports in Georgia generate positive economic impacts as well as support many other sectors of local and state economies. In the summer of 2019, the Georgia Department of Transportation undertook a statewide study to estimate the annual economic impact of 102 study airports. The study estimated economic impacts for seven commercial airports and 95 general aviation airports. This report includes impacts related to **Barwick LaFayette Airport** and summarizes all Statewide Airport Economic Impacts.

### Annual Economic Impacts for Barwick LaFayette Airport

Residents, businesses, and visitors benefit from the state's well-developed airport system. While supporting transportation, healthcare, tourism, and commerce, airports contribute to the economy. The Economic Impact Study identified specific economic impacts associated with the **Barwick LaFayette Airport** and other airport benefits. Key impacts for the **Barwick LaFayette Airport** follow.

Annual Visitors  
**2,666**

Employment Supported  
**42**

Annual Payroll  
**\$1,516,900**

Annual Spending  
**\$2,550,100**

Annual Economic Impact  
**\$4,067,000**

Airport-Supported Annual State & Local Sales & Income Tax Revenues  
**\$183,200**

### Economic Impacts for Barwick LaFayette Airport

The table below provides information on the sources of annual economic impact estimated for the **Barwick LaFayette Airport**. For more information on the impacts reported here, consult the study's Technical Report available at [dot.ga.gov/IS/AirportAid](http://dot.ga.gov/IS/AirportAid).

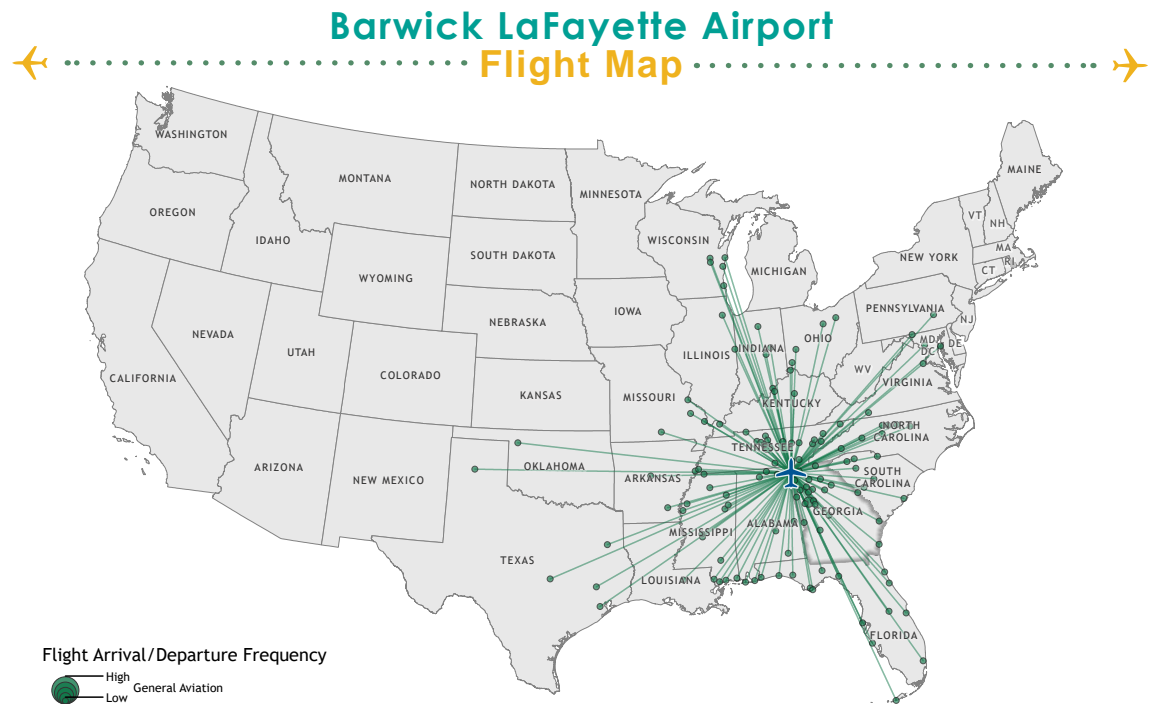
#### Annual Economic Impacts for Barwick LaFayette Airport

	Employment	Payroll	Spending	Total Economic Activity
Airport Management & Business Tenants	34	\$1,292,700	\$2,113,400	\$3,406,100
Capital Investment	1	\$35,100	\$143,600	\$178,700
General Aviation Visitor Expenditures	7	\$189,100	\$293,100	\$482,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>\$1,516,900</b>	<b>\$2,550,100</b>	<b>\$4,067,000</b>

### Georgia Airports Support Connectivity

A flight from a Georgia airport is a gateway to over 40,000 worldwide airports, including over 19,000 airports in the US alone. When employers seek to relocate or expand, proximity to an airport is among the top 10 factors they consider in their decision making. Georgia's tourist industry also depends on the efficiency of air travel.

This map depicts destinations for flights departing from and arriving at **Barwick LaFayette Airport** on any given day. This information is generated from the FAA's National Offload Program (NOP). Flights represent only a fraction of all destinations that can be reached directly from the airport. The map helps to show how the airport supports the travel needs of businesses, visitors, and residents of the airport's service area.



### Top Five Destinations for Barwick LaFayette Airport

**1** Dalton, Georgia

**2** Atlanta, Georgia

**3** Murfreesboro, Tennessee

**4** Greensboro, North Carolina

**5** Athens, Georgia

## Statewide Economic Impacts

Shown below are total annual statewide economic impacts. All economic impacts shown in this report for Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport were obtained from a separate study for that airport conducted by the City of Atlanta. As shown, when all Georgia airports are considered, total annual statewide economic impacts are estimated at 450,502 jobs, \$9.2 billion in annual payroll, and \$73.7 billion in annual economic activity.

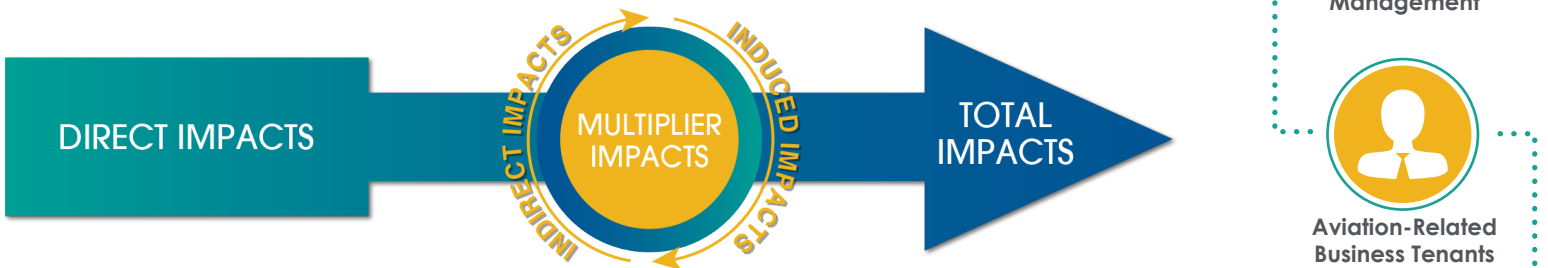
### Statewide Economic Impacts All System Airports

	Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport*	Commercial Study Airports	General Aviation Study Airports	State Total
Employment	383,242	52,376	14,893	450,502
Payroll	\$16.7 billion	\$1.3 billion	\$271 million	\$9.2 billion
Economic Activity	\$66.8 billion	\$2.2 billion	\$828 million	\$73.7 billion

\*2016-2017 Technical Report, City of Atlanta Economic Impact Study

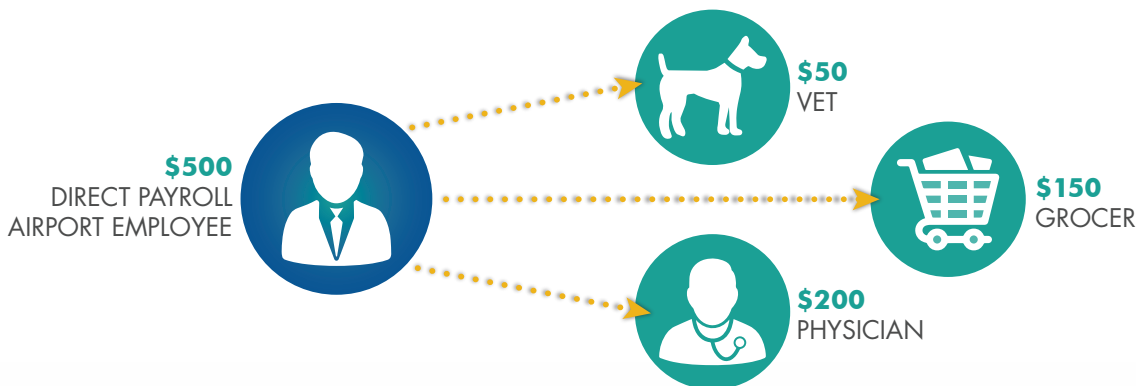
## Economic Impact Categories and Measurements

The study identified impacts related to airport management (day-to-day airport operations), aviation-related business tenants, average annual capital investment, expenditures by visitors arriving on general aviation aircraft, and expenditures by visitors arriving on scheduled commercial airline flights. For each of these five categories, impacts were measured for **employment, payroll, spending, and annual economic activity**. Annual economic activity is the sum of payroll and spending. In addition, the study estimated state and local tax revenues that are generated by airport-supported activities.



## Study Methodology

Data collection and survey efforts identified **direct** economic impacts in each of the five impact categories using an approved FAA methodology. A state input/output model (**IMPLAN**) was used to estimate additional **indirect and induced** impacts, sometimes referred to as multiplier impacts. Combined, direct plus indirect/induced impacts equal total state or airport specific economic impacts.



The direct impacts that start at the airport multiply within the state economy. The \$150 of direct impact spent with the grocery results in additional payroll (induced impacts) for the grocer's employees. As the grocery buys supplies, this additional business to business spending results in indirect impacts.

Visitors Arriving on Commercial Flights

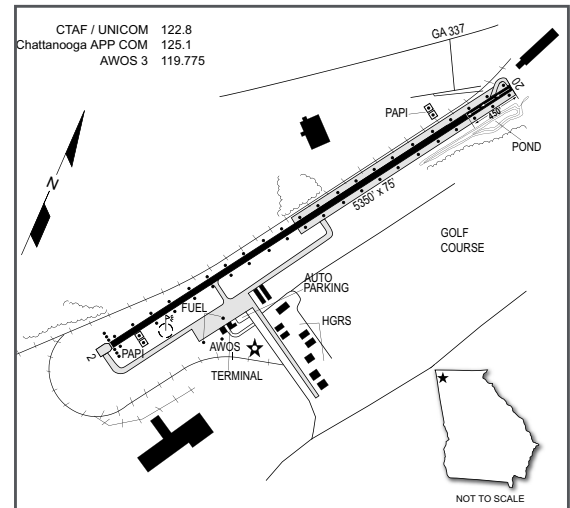


## Barwick LaFayette Airport

The City of LaFayette is located in North Georgia approximately a two-hour drive from Atlanta. LaFayette is situated near U.S. Highway 27 in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains on the Georgia-Tennessee border. Therefore the city is part of the Chattanooga Metropolitan Area. LaFayette is the largest city and the county seat of Walker County which has a significant manufacturing economic base and numerous natural tourist attractions and recreational opportunities.

The Barwick LaFayette Airport is owned and operated by the City of LaFayette, and located one mile south of LaFayette's central business district. The airport has one asphalt runway, Runway 02/20, which is 5,415 feet long. The airport has four aviation-related business tenants including Flight Methods, who provide emergency medical services. Patton Enterprises, Gann Aviation, and North Georgia Aero provide maintenance services. Combined these businesses support about 13 jobs at the airport.

The Barwick LaFayette Airport supports corporate, flight training, and recreational activities. Aerial applicators, aerial inspections, air cargo companies, the military, forest firefighting, and law enforcement flights are also frequent at the airport. The airport is considered an asset to the community as it frequently serves as a staging area for community meetings and events.



## Examples of How Barwick LaFayette Airport Supports its Community

There is a good chance you benefit from different activities that the airport supports. Airports support healthcare and emergency services. Airports support the state's agricultural and forestry industries, and power companies rely on airports to keep electricity flowing. State and federal agencies use airports to protect the environment, and law enforcement benefits from airports. Businesses throughout Georgia rely on airports to improve their efficiency. Examples of how the airport benefits the community follow.

**Business Use:** Airports are tools used by a wide variety of employers to increase efficiency. When businesses consider where they locate or expand, proximity to an airport is often a top consideration. Airports are also a contributor to an area's economic diversification and growth. Both local and visiting businesses rely on air travel to increase their efficiency. Airports can be used to help companies expand their market areas, reduce employee travel time, provide access for customers and suppliers, and tie together offices in multiple locations. One of the businesses that relies on and benefits from the Barwick LaFayette Airport is the Roper Corporation. The Roper Corporation manufactures a variety of appliances for the General Electric Corporation (GE). GE recently invested \$43 million dollars in the area, creating 100 new jobs. This investment brings the company's local employment to over 2,000 personnel. By supporting this major local and other visiting businesses, the airport helps support many sectors of the local economy.

**Aerial Applicators:** Agriculture has long been an important part of Georgia's economy. Georgia is home to a diverse array of food and fiber products and an assortment of related processing companies. Together, agriculture and its related industries in Georgia directly and indirectly account for over \$74.3 billion dollars in economic output and over 411,500 jobs. Georgia is host to over 42,000 farms, encompassing more than 9 million acres; 88 percent of these farms are considered small businesses. The Bureau of Economic Analysis reports nearly 35,000 farm proprietors in the state. Aviation is an important tool that supports agriculture in Georgia. Aerial applicators spray crops and sometimes timber to prevent the spread of disease and pests. Occasionally crops are fertilized from the air. By supporting aerial applicators, the airport plays an important role in the success of area farmers.

**Emergency/Medical Support:** AirCARE1 uses the airport to fly Georgia residents in need of advanced medical care to other parts of Georgia, other areas in the United States, and in some instances even to other parts of the world. Founded by a critical care nurse, AirCARE1 enables area residents to seek out the finest medical care available. While in the air, AirCare1 provides patients with the same level of medical care that the patient receives at the most prestigious ground-based medical facilities. Serving the airport, AirCARE1 is recognized as a leader in the field of medical transport. AirCARE1 is one of the few air ambulance and medevac providers who have earned dual accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS) and the European Aero-Medical Institute (EURAMI). The flight crew who transports area residents includes two highly experienced and knowledgeable air ambulance pilots; the medical staff on each flight includes a critical care nurse and either a respiratory therapist or a paramedic. AirCARE1's fleet is comprised of Lear 35A jets, and their fleet is outfitted with the most advanced medical technology available to support neonate, pediatric, geriatric, and bariatric patients.

**Georgia Forestry Commission:** Over 25 million acres, two-thirds of the state, are forested. According to the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC), annual economic activity generated by the state's forest industry is estimated at \$36.2 billion. GFC is responsible for protecting and conserving Georgia's forest resources, and aircraft are essential to enabling GFC to carry out its missions. GFC has an office in Perry and routinely uses aircraft and the airport to support its activities. GFC provides services including fire detection; wildfire suppression and prevention services; rural fire department assistance; forest management assistance; marketing of forest resources; and growing and selling tree seedlings. By supporting GFC, the airport contributes to the state's economy and to the safety of its residents and businesses.

### THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED BY

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*Data collection and analysis for this study took place before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Results reflect conditions at Georgia airports prior to that time.*

### FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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