# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF Tara Field

1.

# Hampton, Georgia



### Georgia Airports Mean Business

Georgia's airport system of 104 publicly-owned, publicuse airports – nine commercial service airports and 95 general aviation airports – are essential to the state's transportation and economic infrastructure, supporting its diversified industries including technology, manufacturing, distribution, tourism, and agriculture. These businesses utilize Georgia's airports to transport employees, customers, vendors and goods, which spur economic development. Airport businesses support onsite and local jobs by providing aviation-related goods and services to aircraft and passengers. Additionally, on-airport capital improvements promote economic activity in the community through increased construction jobs and the purchase of goods and services. Georgia's business and leisure visitors, who regularly arrive on commercial airlines and general aviation aircraft, stimulate local economies by spending money for lodging, food, other transportation, shopping, recreation, and entertainment.

Georgia's airports, by means of on and off-site businesses, visitors, and aviation-related organizations, contribute significantly to the state's economy, supporting 471,175 jobs, \$17.7 billion in payroll, and \$62.6 billion in statewide economic impact.

### Statewide Economic Impact Study -

The Georgia Department of Transportation commissioned this Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-funded study to quantify the economic contribution of the state's airport system using an FAA-approved methodology of survey data and modeling estimates. The economic impacts are categorized by on-airport, visitor, and multiplier impacts to measure the total jobs, payroll, and total economic output of each of the 104 airports in this study.

The economic benefits calculated for each of the airports was based on comprehensive survey data provided by airport managers, airport tenants, nonaviation businesses who utilize the airport, and airport visitors. The multiplier effect of these direct impacts was calculated using Georgia-specific regional multipliers. For example, if an airport employee purchases groceries, those dollars may support a grocer's payroll, the grocer may spend money on child care, and so on, until those payroll dollars originating from airport activity leave the community and state. The spending and re-spending generates additional economic activity in the region.

The total economic impact of \$62.6 billion is the sum of all direct airport and visitor impacts combining with the multiplier effects and presented in terms of jobs, payroll, and total economic output.

	Statewide Economic Impact			
	Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International	Other Commercial Service Airports	General Aviation Airports	Statewide Totals
Jobs	434,434	26,451	10,290	471,175
Payroll	\$16.3 billion	\$1.1 billion	\$354.4 million	\$17.8 billion
Economic Output	\$58.2 billion	\$3.2 billion	\$1.2 billion	\$62.6 billion

Note: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport data is from 2009 Economic Impact Study. All other data is based on CY2010.

## Benefits of Tara Field

Tara Field is 30 miles south of the Atlanta metropolitan area in Hampton. Henry County had a 2010 population estimate of 204,000 and offers all the business, education, transportation, and healthcare amenities of a major city.

Tara Field is located three miles west of the Hampton central business district, situated adjacent to the Atlanta Motor Speedway along U.S. Highway 19/41. The airport encompasses 154 acres and has one asphalt runway, Runway 06/24, 4,503 feet in length. The airport is owned and operated by Henry County and serves as the fixed base operator, providing tie downs, hangar storage, pilot lounge, on-site weather reporting, and 24-hour self-serve Jet-A and Avgas fuel services to users. Henry County has experienced rapid growth since 1999 and the airport plays a vital role in supporting the growth in its community.

Tara Field has an impressive list of tenants including Hale Aircraft and National Aerotech, which are both certified repair stations. Hale Aircraft specializes in engine overhaul, while National Aerotech specializes in airframe refitting and restoration for a variety of private and government clients. Aircraft maintenance services are provided by Aero Specialists, General Aviation Maintenance, and Jet Limo. Executive Aircraft Storage, Walker Air, and T-Bird Hangars provide hangar rental and development services. Bob's Flight School provides flight training. Jet Limo provides air charter service.

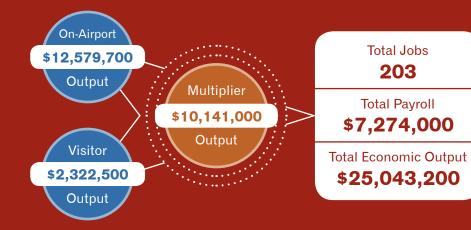
The airport plays a major role in supporting employers in

the region. Air transportation and access via Tara Field is vital to area businesses including Allan Vigil Ford Lincoln, Davis Construction, Gresham and Associates, NASCAR, Caterpillar, Snapper, Pep Boys, Summit Racing, Cracker Barrel, Briggs & Stratton, Aircraft Sales, and Crown Royal. The Atlanta Motor Speedway has one of the fastest tracks on the NASCAR circuit and generates a large volume of traffic at Tara Field during race events with NASCAR teams and spectators flying to Hampton. During race events, the airport provides FAA air traffic controllers on a temporary basis to accommodate the high demand.

Other activities supported by Tara Field include aerial inspections, aerial photography and surveys, and aerial banner towing. Blimp operators and other aerial advertisers routinely use the large field adjacent to the runway as a base of operation or stopover point while advertising in the area. The airport supports quality of life in the area by enabling emergency medical evacuations and patient transfers.

Airports connect Georgia's citizens and businesses to the rest of the state, our nation, and the global economy. Tara Field plays a vital role in supporting the region with 203 jobs with an annual payroll of \$7,274,000, and \$25,043,200 in economic output for the local and regional economies.

#### Economic Impact of Tara Field



**Jobs** measures the number of full-time equivalent jobs where a part-time employee counts as half a full-time employee.

**Payroll** measures the total annual wages and benefits paid to all workers whose salaries are directly attributable to airport activity.

**Economic Output** measures the value of goods and services related to the airport.

#### **Georgia Airports**

- Georgia is served by 104 publicly-owned, publicuse airports:
  - Nine commercial service airports, including Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International, and
  - 95 general aviation airports.
- Airports in Georgia (excluding Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International) support:
  - 1.2 million annual boarded passengers.
  - 720,000 commercial service visitors.
  - 1.1 million general aviation visitors.
  - More than 500 on-airport businesses.
- Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport:
  - Supports more than 46 million annual boarded passengers; that's nearly 12,700 daily boarded passengers.
  - Provides nonstop service to 156 U.S. cities and more than 80 international destinations in 52 countries.
  - Supports nearly 60 passenger and cargo airlines.
  - Is the busiest passenger and operations airport in the world.

Note: Calendar Year 2010 data.

For more information contact:

#### **Georgia Department of Transportation** Aviation Programs 600 West Peachtree Street, NW Atlanta, Georgia 30308

404-631-1000 http://www.dot.ga.gov.





Cover photo courtesy of Georgia Business Aviation Association (GBAA)