



Georgia Department of Transportation



• ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT FOR •
HOMERVILLE 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 **Homerville Airport** and summarizes all Statewide Airport Economic Impacts.

Annual Economic Impacts for Homerville 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 **Homerville Airport** and other airport benefits. Key impacts for the **Homerville Airport** follow.

- Annual Visitors **406**
- Employment Supported **46**
- Annual Payroll **\$1,406,700**
- Annual Spending **\$5,774,600**
- Annual Economic Impact **\$7,181,300**
- Airport-Supported Annual State & Local Sales & Income Tax Revenues **\$267,650**

Economic Impacts for Homerville Airport

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

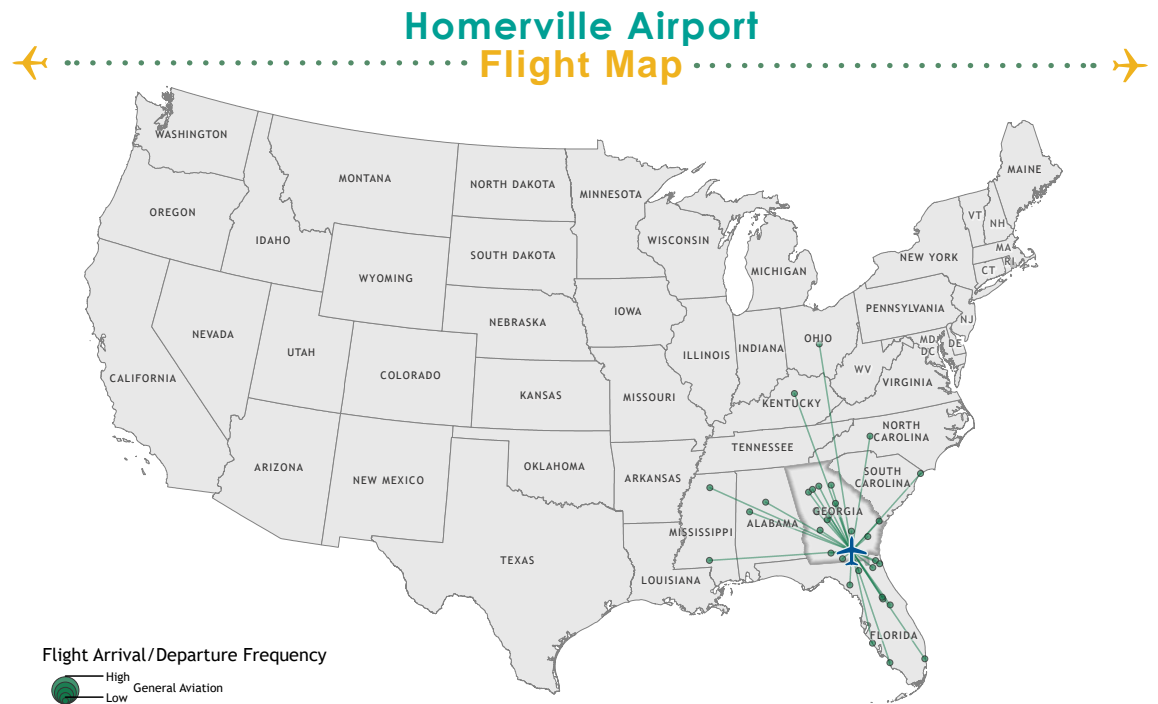
Annual Economic Impacts for Homerville Airport

	Employment	Payroll	Spending	Total Economic Activity
Airport Management & Business Tenants	1	\$17,700	\$128,700	\$146,400
Capital Investment	44	\$1,373,100	\$5,621,300	\$6,994,400
General Aviation Visitor Expenditures	1	\$15,900	\$24,600	\$40,500
Total	46	\$1,406,700	\$5,774,600	\$7,181,300

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 **Homerville 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 Homerville Airport

- 1** Columbus, Ohio
- 2** Milledgeville, Georgia
- 3** Americus, Georgia
- 4** Hazlehurst, Georgia
- 5** Atlanta, 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.

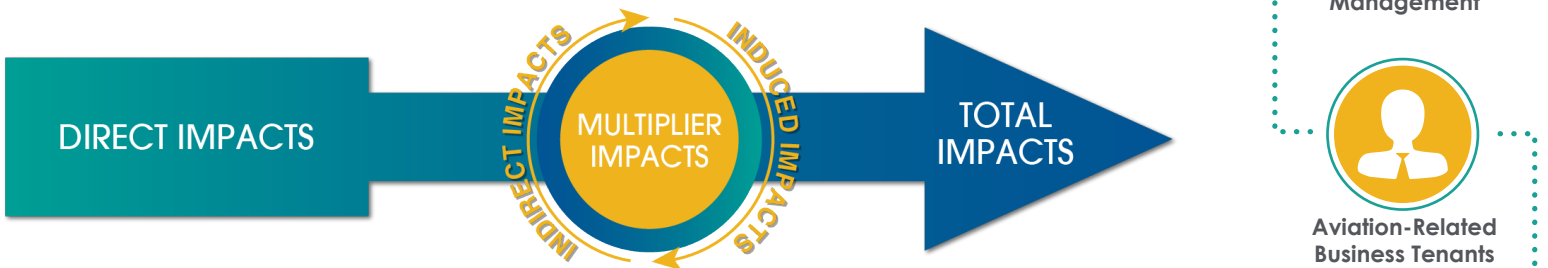
Statewide Economic Impacts All System Airports

	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

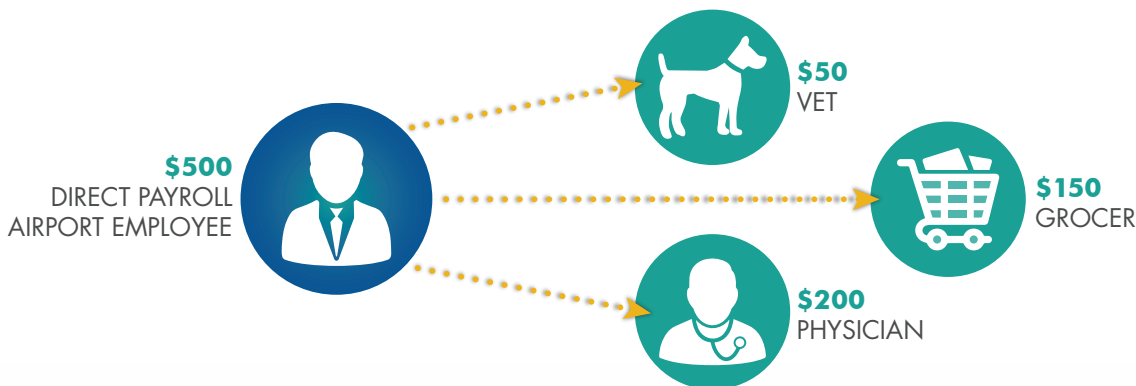
Economic Impact Categories and Measurements

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.

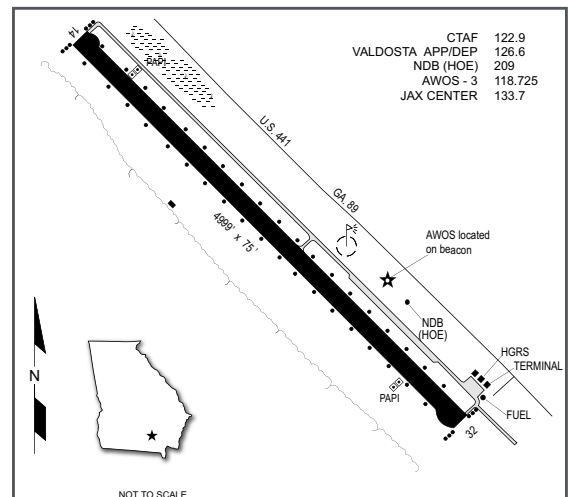
Visitors Arriving on Commercial Flights

Homerville Airport

The City of Homerville is located at the intersection of U.S. Highways 84 and 441 in South Georgia, approximately 30 miles north of Florida. Homerville is the largest city and is the county seat of Clinch County. The city is known for its agricultural and forestry industries. The area is a gateway for recreational opportunities provided by the Okefenokee Swamp and the Suwannee River.

The Homerville Airport is located two miles northwest of Homerville's central business district on U.S. Highway 441 and is owned and operated by the City of Homerville. The airport has one runway, Runway 14/32 which is 4,999 feet long. The terminal building offers amenities for pilots and passengers, including a lounge, restrooms, showers, a snooze room, and internet access.

The airport supports area businesses, along with agricultural and logging interests. Aerial applicators frequently use the airport. The airport also supports aerial inspections, military exercises and training, air ambulance services, aerial firefighting, and aerial photography and surveys.



Examples of How Homerville 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 their 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. Bee Sweet Honey is an example of a local business that relies on the airport. By supporting local users, the airport assists many sectors of the economy.

Agency Use: Agencies that frequently rely on the airport for aerial support include the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the Georgia Forestry Commission, and the Georgia State Patrol. These agencies use the airport for a wide variety of activities including protection of wildlife areas and waterways, forest fire prevention and firefighting, and various types of law enforcement. By supporting the operations of these and other agencies, the airport adds value.

Aerial Applicators: Agriculture is 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 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 a tool that supports agriculture in Georgia. Aerial applicators spray crops and timber to prevent the spread of disease and pests. The airport supports transient or visiting aerial applicators of herbicides, fungicides, pesticides, and fertilizers to help local farms produce higher yields and cleaner fields.

Powerline Patrols Georgia Power: An estimated 500,000 miles of powerlines snake their way around the United States. General aviation aircraft are often employed to scout the lines and to report problems to the power company. Pilots flying low-power general aviation aircraft make observations on discrepancies, vegetation infringement, and other potential issues that may require maintenance or repair. Georgia Power uses the airport to support its maintenance activities which include aerial powerline patrols that are necessary to provide reliable and economical service to all customers. Georgia's electric highway of powerlines cover 12,500 miles. Following storms, aircraft can quickly survey area powerlines for damage. Quick aerial response supported by the airport results in targeted dispatch of repair crews to assist with restoring power in a timely fashion.

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.

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