



Georgia Department of Transportation



• ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT FOR •  
**BACON COUNTY 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 **Bacon County Airport** and summarizes all Statewide Airport Economic Impacts.

## Annual Economic Impacts for Bacon County 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 **Bacon County Airport** and other airport benefits. Key impacts for the **Bacon County Airport** follow.

Annual Visitors  
**2,544**

Employment Supported  
**13**

Annual Payroll  
**\$380,500**

Annual Spending  
**\$951,700**

Annual Economic Impact  
**\$1,332,200**

Airport-Supported Annual State & Local Sales & Income Tax Revenues  
**\$56,660**

## Economic Impacts for Bacon County Airport

The table below provides information on the sources of annual economic impact estimated for the **Bacon County 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).

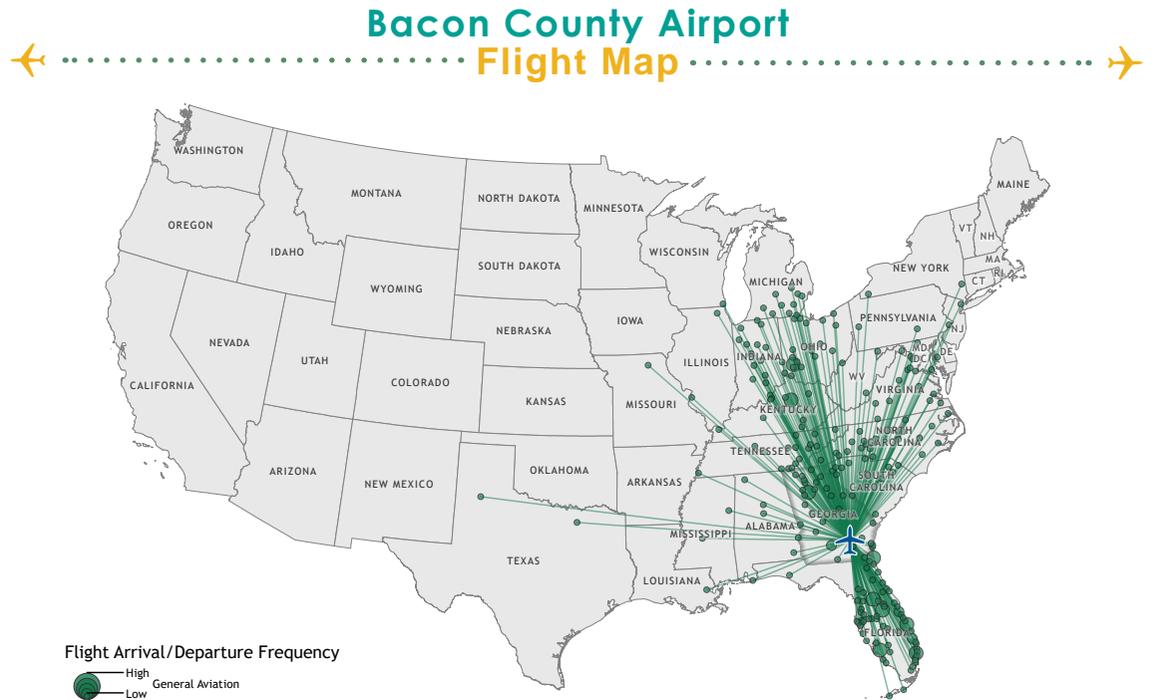
### Annual Economic Impacts for Bacon County Airport

	Employment	Payroll	Spending	Total Economic Activity
Airport Management & Business Tenants	3	\$96,500	\$248,100	\$344,600
Capital Investment	3	\$103,500	\$423,800	\$527,300
General Aviation Visitor Expenditures	7	\$180,500	\$279,800	\$460,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$380,500</b>	<b>\$951,700</b>	<b>\$1,332,200</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 **Bacon County 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 Bacon County Airport

- 1** Fernandina Beach, Florida
- 2** Lexington, Kentucky
- 3** Leesburg, Florida
- 4** Fort Pierce, Florida
- 5** Fort Lauderdale, Florida

## 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.

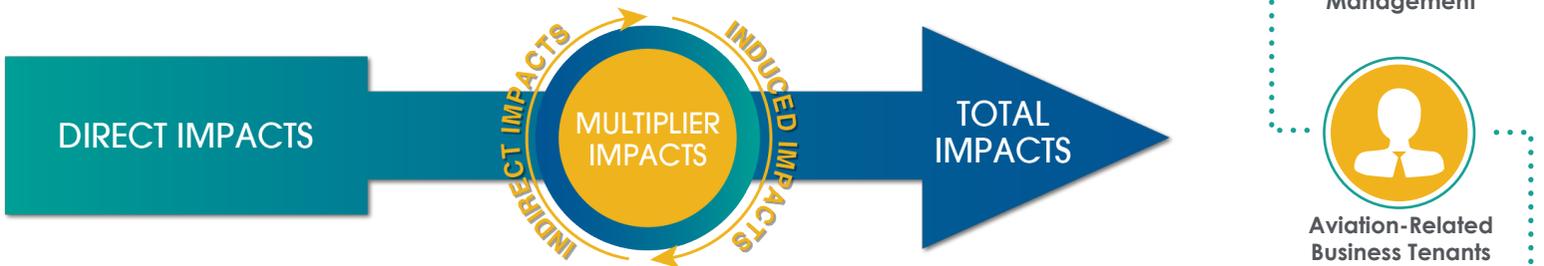
### Statewide Economic Impacts All System Airports

	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

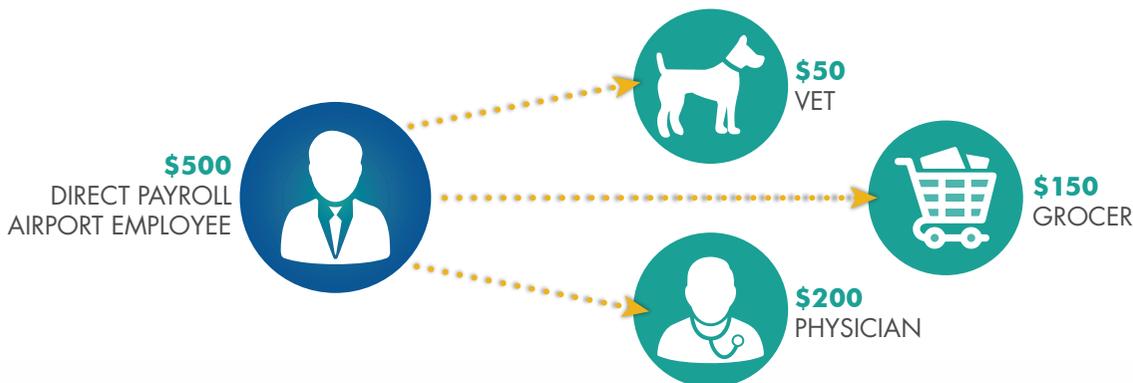
## Economic Impact Categories and Measurements

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.



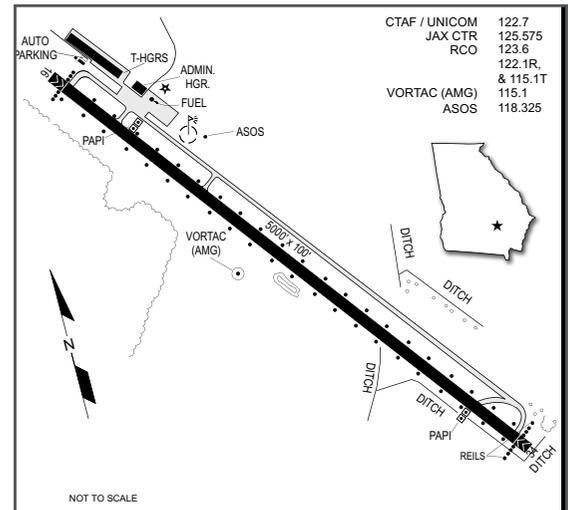
The direct impacts that start at the airport multiply within the state economy. The \$150 of direct impact spent with the grocery results in additional payroll (induced impacts) for the grocer's employees. As the grocery buys supplies, this additional business to business spending results in indirect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

- Airport Management
- Aviation-Related Business Tenants
- Average Annual Capital Investment
- Visitors Arriving on General Aviation Aircrafts
- Visitors Arriving on Commercial Flights

## Bacon County Airport

The Bacon County Airport is located in southeastern Georgia, approximately 26 miles north of Waycross and 24 miles east of Douglas. The primary highway access to the airport from the east and west is via Georgia Highway 32 and from the north and south via US Highway 1. Other highways in the vicinity include US Highways 23, 82, and 341 and Georgia Highways 4 and 64.

The airport is owned and operated by Bacon County. The airport has a single runway that is 5,000 feet long; at this length, the airport's runway is capable of accommodating smaller business jets. Willis Aviation and Maintenance operates at the airport and provides services to general aviation aircraft. The area's medical and emergency services are supported by the airport, as are area tourist attractions. The airport accommodates a variety of aviation-related activities including police/law enforcement, recreational flying, corporate/business jets, agricultural spraying, ultra-lights, and experimental aircraft.



## Examples of How Bacon County 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.

**Emergency 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 best 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, both in the U.S. and among European Medical Transport. 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. Medical support services that the airport facilitates often are unobserved but are critical for urgent medical conditions.

**Medical Services:** The nation's hospital system is shrinking; and, smaller/local hospitals find it a challenge to retain a full complement of medical specialists. Small hospitals often do not have advanced trauma care services. The Bacon County Hospital serves local medical needs. Airports assist in backfilling the void for various types of locally-based physicians. Airports also are available to transport patients needing advanced medical or trauma care to larger hospitals in Georgia. The ability to rapidly and safely move patients, medical personnel, and equipment, when conditions are urgent, is beneficial to the well-being and quality of life of local residents.

**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. By hosting transient or visiting aerial applicators, the airport benefits local agricultural interests.

**Tourism/Recreation:** There are many parts of Georgia that attract visitors on a regular basis. Visitors who arrive in Georgia by air have spending that supports many jobs and the payroll associated with these jobs. Blueberry Inn and Golf Club host various family and corporate gatherings that bring visitors to the area; some customers arrive via the airport. By supporting tourism, the airport contributes to the area's economy.

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