



SAN Update
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Washington State Releases 2012 Aviation Economic Impact Study

The Washington State Department of Transportation's Aviation Division released its [2012 Aviation Economic Impact Study](#) in which the agency reviewed analysis on the economic and fiscal impacts of each public use airport, how the aviation industry creates economic value for people and communities across the state, and how the aviation system supports economic development and competitiveness at the local and state levels.

Washington is home to 135 airports, 45 of which offer general aviation services. Aviation supports nearly 250,000 jobs and provides \$50.9 billion in total economic activity, of which more than \$791 million in tax revenue is generated by aviation activities. These findings are significantly higher than those of the previous report released in 2000, which found just over 171,000 jobs were supported by aviation and \$18.6 billion in economic activity attributed to the industry.

The study found that aviation plays a critical role in the state's transportation infrastructure, supporting local and state economic success. "The value derived by individuals, communities, and businesses from their access to and use of aviation services far exceeds even the direct job, wage, and output impacts," the study notes. Aviation needs the appropriate funding to strengthen the state's economic and fiscal impacts further.