



Summary of Economic Impact of General Aviation in New Mexico

Aviation is a vital element of New Mexico's economy. Each year, aviation activity in the state produces \$3.1 billion in economic activity, employs approximately 48,000 state residents, and adds \$1.3 billion in payroll.

Aviation by the Numbers

There are 60 public-owned, public-use airports in the state, serving more than 4,500 active pilots and 3,300 general aviation aircraft.

Economic Impact and Qualitative Benefits

General aviation is vital to many businesses (many non-aviation businesses) in New Mexico, which use these aircraft to move personnel, equipment, and products. According to a 2006 Merge Global study, general aviation in New Mexico contributes \$761 million, or \$378 per capita, to the state's economy.

A 2009 New Mexico Airport System Plan Update found that the state's aviation industry supports \$3.1 billion in economic activity annually. According to the 2009 New Mexico Airport System Plan Update, aviation supports over 48,000 jobs and \$1.3 billion in payroll.

Tourists visiting New Mexico via general aviation aircraft are responsible for more than \$61 million of economic benefit annually to the state.

New Mexico is home to 21 charter flight companies, 21 airport repair stations, and 8 flight schools operating 43 aircraft and providing 119 jobs. In addition, the state has 40 Fixed Base Operators (FBOs) and nine public benefit organizations promote "air transportation for a cause" via general aviation aircraft. As an example, volunteer pilots with Angel Flight South Central have flown 120 missions and coordinated an additional 200 in the last two years. San Juan College in Farmington, NM is a member of the University Aviation Association (UAA).

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is the world's largest aviation organization representing the general aviation interests of pilots and aircraft owners, including approximately 2,400 of our members in the state of New Mexico.

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