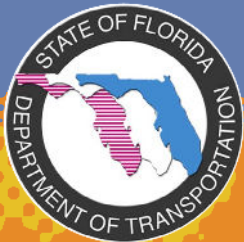


# THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF *Southwest Florida* International Airport (RSW)

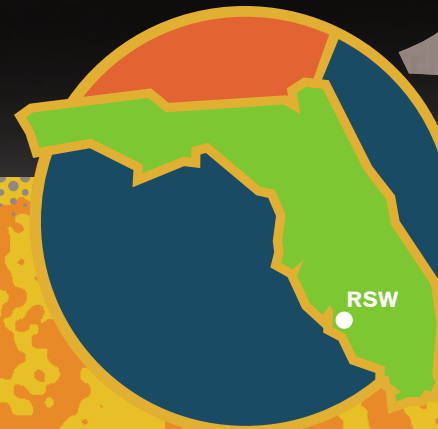
## *Aviation's* Benefit for Florida

Florida's economic well-being is intrinsically entwined with its vibrant airport system and its robust aviation industry. The aviation system in Florida allows the state to capitalize on an increasingly global marketplace. Aviation in Florida both sustains and leads economic growth and development. Airports in Florida are important economic engines, and support vital health, welfare, emergency, and safety-related services.

Florida's system of commercial service and general aviation airports are important to businesses throughout the state. Air travel is essential to tourism, Florida's number one industry. Protecting and investing in airports throughout Florida will support the aviation industry and the economic benefits described in this report. With continued support, Florida's dynamic aviation system will continue to provide a significant economic return in the years to come.



Florida Department of Transportation  
Aviation Office  
[www.dot.state.fl.us/aviation](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/aviation)



MARCH 2010

# Florida's Statewide Benefits from Aviation

Florida realizes significant annual economic benefits from aviation. The Florida Department of Transportation completed a comprehensive economic impact analysis to measure these benefits. Benefits measured in the FDOT study considered direct and indirect economic impacts and induced impacts that result from the multiplier effect. A summary of Florida's annual economic benefits from aviation follows:



Impact Category	Total Employment	Total Payroll	Total Output
Airports	158,861	\$7,752,561,600	\$28,793,238,700
Visitors Arriving by Air	753,353	\$19,315,252,400	\$59,178,047,200
Construction at Airports	25,321	\$1,041,077,200	\$2,858,791,800
Air Cargo	69,256	\$3,054,598,800	\$6,596,812,200
Aviation Education	6,977	\$201,195,400	\$573,188,000
Military Aviation	116,860	\$5,855,976,400	\$10,797,219,600
Aviation Businesses	35,986	\$1,255,264,800	\$5,321,292,400
Federal Aviation Administration	4,545	\$318,215,600	\$617,783,700
<b>Total Annual Economic Benefits</b>	<b>1,171,159</b>	<b>\$38,794,142,200</b>	<b>\$114,736,373,600</b>

Total annual economic output shown above represents more than 15 percent of Florida's gross state product (GSP). Many employers in Florida also rely on aviation to support their daily activities. Use of aviation helps to improve business efficiency. The FDOT study shows that, annually, by using all facets of air transportation, the efficiency of Florida businesses is increased by an estimated \$94.5 billion. This increased business efficiency is in addition to the total annual economic benefits noted above.

# Southwest Florida International Airport

Southwest Florida International Airport is located in Southwest Florida on the Gulf Coast. The airport's single runway is 12,000 feet. Facilities at the airport are capable of supporting a full range of commercial aircraft. The airport accommodates both domestic and international air service, along with air cargo activity.

Southwest Florida International Airport serves a mix of personal, leisure, and business-related travel. Nearly 4 million enplaning commercial passengers flow through the airport each year; almost 70 percent of these enplanements are visitors whose spending helps to contribute to the airport's economic impact. Southwest Florida International Airport's easy access from Interstate 75 helps to fuel demand for the airport.

The airport has more than 60 on-site aviation-related tenants; most of the airport's on-site tenants are dedicated to supporting the airlines and commercial passenger travel. The annual economic impact of Southwest Florida International Airport is associated with direct impacts that come from tenants/businesses located at the airport and construction projects by the airport or by on-site businesses. Indirect impacts are associated with spending from visitors who arrive in the area via commercial and general aviation aircraft. The airport's total annual economic impact follows:

