OVERVIEW

The Ohio State University Airport Economic Impact Study Update highlights the significant economic contributions that Central Ohio realizes from The Ohio State University Airport. The analysis presented in this study considers the economic impacts associated with on-airport tenants, capital construction projects, and visitors who arrive via privately-owned general aviation aircraft.

Owned and operated by The Ohio State University College of Engineering, The Ohio State University Airport is a vital transportation link, connecting Central Ohio businesses to the global economy and visitors from across the country to the diverse attractions and activities found in our region, whether it be attending an Ohio State University sporting event, shopping in the Short North, or exploring the Columbus Zoo. The airport also serves as a world-class teaching and research laboratory for students of the University’s Center for Aviation Studies and other departments. As of July 2012, the airport was the fourth busiest airport in Ohio and one of the top 100 busiest general aviation airports in the United States. The airport was recently categorized as a National facility in the Federal Aviation Administration’s study General Aviation Airports: A National Asset, which highlights the pivotal role of the nation’s nearly 3,000 general aviation airports.

Major tenants at The Ohio State University Airport include the University, which serves as the airport’s fixed base operator in addition to its teaching and airport management role; MedFlight, a non-profit air and ground critical care transportation company that completes nearly 7,000 transports by helicopter and Mobile Intensive Care Unit each year; the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s Aviation Section, which enforces traffic safety laws and assists motorists on the state’s highways; the Ohio Department of Transportation’s Office of Aviation, which conducts various functions for aviation customers throughout Ohio; and several local corporations, such as Cardinal Health, Worthington Industries, W.W. Williams, Advanced Drainage Systems, and DLZ Aircraft, that base their aircraft at the airport and rely on it to improve their business efficiency. In total, the airport’s tenants directly employ 271 persons.

When on-airport tenant, capital construction project, visitor, and multiplier impacts are summed for 2011, The Ohio State University Airport is responsible for 813 jobs, more than $35.3 million in payroll, and nearly $157.8 million in output throughout the region.

THE AIRPORT SUPPORTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Jobs</th>
<th>813</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Payroll</td>
<td>$35.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Output</td>
<td>$157.8 million</td>
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</tbody>
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IMPACT TYPES

Direct Impacts include both on-airport and visitor impacts. On-airport impacts are those benefits associated with on-airport tenants, including businesses and government organizations, as well as capital construction projects. Visitor impacts generally take place off-airport and are attributable to general aviation visitor spending.

Multiplier Impacts consist of indirect and induced impacts. Indirect impacts are related to the re-circulation of monies spent locally by on-airport tenants. Induced impacts are those impacts resulting from the re-circulation of employee payroll within the economy.

Total Economic Impacts are the combination of all direct and multiplier impacts.

IMPACT MEASURES

Employment measures the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs related to airport activity including on-airport construction. Two part-time employees count as one full-time employee.

Payroll measures the total annual wages, salary, and benefits paid to all workers whose employment is directly attributable to airport activity.

Economic Activity (Output) measures the value of goods and services related to The Ohio State University Airport. The output of on-airport tenants is assumed to be the sum of annual gross sales and average annual capital expenditures. For those organizations where gross sales is not applicable (such as government organizations), output is estimated as the sum of annual payroll, annual expenses, and average annual capital expenditures. For general aviation visitors using the airport, output is assumed to equal total visitor spending.
AVIATION EDUCATION

The Ohio State University Airport is a leading center of aviation education. Airport staff teaches 75 percent of all aviation courses, and one-third of airport employees are students gaining on-the-job training. The airport is home to the University’s Flight Education Program and serves as a laboratory for aviation teaching and research for several disciplines at the University, including Aeronautical Engineering, Geography, City and Regional Planning, Industrial Design, Chemistry, and Civil Engineering.

The College of Engineering recently partnered with NetJets, a Berkshire Hathaway company whose world headquarters is located at Port Columbus International Airport, to establish the Ohio State University Center for Aviation Studies. The Center for Aviation Studies enhances the University’s undergraduate aviation programs by providing funding for research projects, student scholarships, and fellowships; conducting economic and public policy studies and technical projects; supporting business operations for the Center; and improving educational resources for students, faculty, and staff. In September 2012, the Federal Aviation Administration selected the Center for Aviation Studies as part of a consortium of universities to lead a new Air Transportation Center of Excellence (COE) for general aviation. The COE will focus research and testing efforts on safety, accessibility, and sustainability to enhance the future of general aviation.

QUALITATIVE BENEFITS

Beyond The Ohio State University Airport’s quantitative impacts, there are a variety of qualitative benefits that deserve consideration when the total value of the airport is considered. Qualitative benefits are those activities which take place at an airport on a regular basis that add to the quality of life of an area’s residents and visitors, but are difficult to assign a dollar value. Qualitative benefits typically enhance the health, welfare, or safety of individuals in an airport’s market area.

In addition to its valuable role as an aviation education center, The Ohio State University Airport is a premier general aviation airport that serves the needs of Central Ohio businesses. A full range of aviation and ground services offered by the airport fixed base operator helps to make the airport an attractive option to the region’s business community. Other than the businesses that base their corporate aircraft at the airport, a few of the businesses that depend on the airport with regularity include Scotts Miracle-Gro, Verizon, LabCorp, Time Warner, Quick Crete, and Meijer.

A number of other types of aviation activities also take place regularly at The Ohio State University Airport. Daily activities include recreational flights, operations by law enforcement, and emergency medical transport and evacuation flights. Other common activities include air cargo operations, environmental patrol, military exercises, and aerial photography. Annually over 2,000 kids of all ages visit the airport for career exploration, introductory flights, and tours. Visitors also fly or drive to the airport to enjoy breakfast or lunch at the Barnstormers Grill. The Ohio State University Airport improves the quality of life in Central Ohio, even for many individuals who never directly use the airport or the many services it provides.