



Georgia Department of Transportation



• ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT FOR •
MILLEN 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 **Millen Airport** and summarizes all Statewide Airport Economic Impacts.

Annual Economic Impacts for Millen 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 **Millen Airport** and other airport benefits. Key impacts for the **Millen Airport** follow.

- Annual Visitors **837**
- Employment Supported **6**
- Annual Payroll **\$161,400**
- Annual Spending **\$662,200**
- Annual Economic Impact **\$823,600**
- Airport-Supported Annual State & Local Sales & Income Tax Revenues **\$30,950**

Economic Impacts for Millen Airport

The table below provides information on the sources of annual economic impact estimated for the **Millen Airport**. For more information on the impacts reported here, consult the study's Technical Report available at dot.ga.gov/IS/AirportAid.

Annual Economic Impacts for Millen Airport

	Employment	Payroll	Spending	Total Economic Activity
Airport Management & Business Tenants	1	\$17,700	\$157,000	\$174,700
Capital Investment	4	\$111,000	\$454,500	\$565,500
General Aviation Visitor Expenditures	1	\$32,700	\$50,700	\$83,400
Total	6	\$161,400	\$662,200	\$823,600

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 **Millen 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 Millen Airport

- 1** Jekyll Island, Georgia
- 2** Orlando, Florida
- 3** Atlanta, Georgia
- 4** Savannah, Georgia
- 5** Winter Haven, 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.

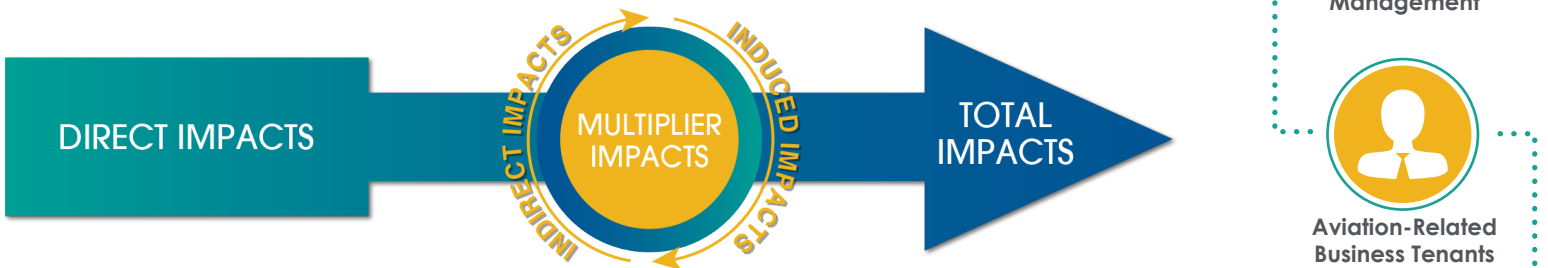
Statewide Economic Impacts All System Airports

	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

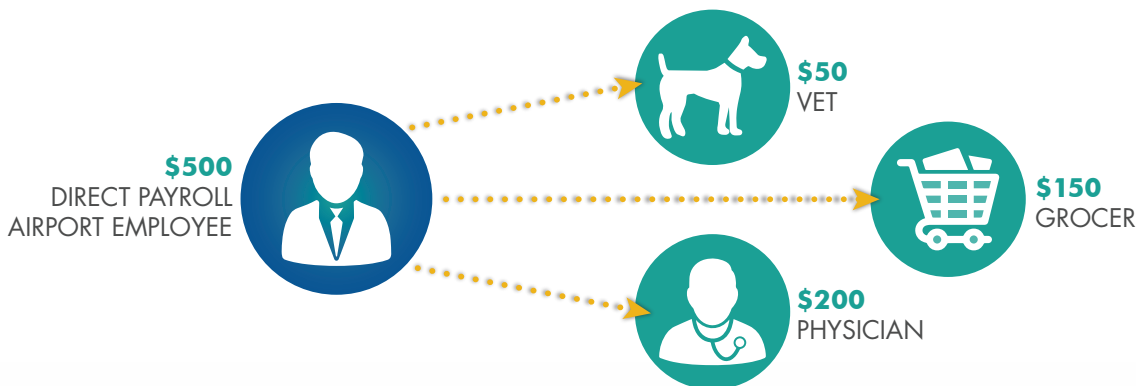
Economic Impact Categories and Measurements

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.



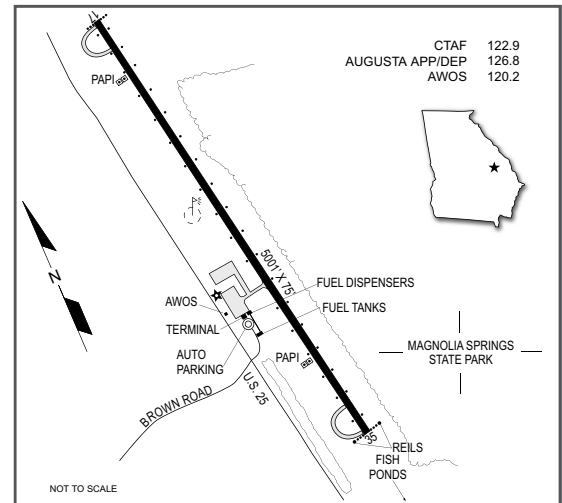
Millen Airport

The Millen Airport is located in Jenkins County in the eastern part of Georgia. The airport is approximately 45 miles south of Augusta and 30 miles north of Statesboro.

The primary highway access to the airport from the north and south is via U.S. 25. Other highways in the vicinity of the airport include Georgia Highways 23, 21, and 67. There are approximately 38,000 residents within a 30-minute drive time of the airport.

The airport is owned and operated by Jenkins County. The airport is served by a single runway. Runway 17/35 is 5,001 feet long. Fuel is available to both based and visiting aircraft.

The airport accommodates general aviation-related activities including recreational flying and agricultural spraying.



Examples of How Millen 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.

Georgia Forestry Commission: Over 25 million acres, two-thirds of the state, are forested. According to the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC), annual economic activity generated by the state's forest industry is estimated at \$36.2 billion. GFC is responsible for protecting and conserving Georgia's forest resources, and aircraft are essential to enabling GFC to carry out its missions. GFC routinely uses aircraft and the airport to support its activities which include fire detection, wildfire suppression and prevention services, rural fire department assistance, forest management assistance, marketing of forest resources, and growing and selling tree seedlings.

Medical/Emergency 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. Jenkins County Medical Center serves local medical needs. Airports assists in backfilling the void for various types of local-based physicians. The airport supports the transport of 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 residents.

Hunting/Tourism: Hunters in Georgia spend a significant amount of money on supplies and equipment. According to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia hosts about 1.5 million hunters annually; spending by hunters supports almost 24,000 jobs. One of Georgia's timber management companies estimates that approximately 60 percent of the hunting leases they provide are for visitors from other states. Hanging Rock Plantation and the Good Company Plantation are examples of local hunting areas that attract visitors. Aside from hunting, the plantations also host weddings and corporate events. Visitors fly to maximize the time they have to spend on recreational activities. Without quick access provided by the airport, some travelers could choose to hunt elsewhere.

Georgia Department of National Resources: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) helps to oversee state parks and historic resources, wildlife resources, law enforcement, historic preservation, environmental protection, and coastal resources throughout the state. DNR is supported by an aviation unit that frequently uses the airport to support its missions. DNR's aviation unit flew 960 hours in 2019 to support their missions. Almost 33% of their hours were flown to support the protection of the state's waterways and woodland areas. DNR assists other agencies such as the Department of Justice, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED BY

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Data collection and analysis for this study took place before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Results reflect conditions at Georgia airports prior to that time.

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