



# **Elizabethton Municipal Airport**

#### **Aviation Moves Tennessee**

Tennessee's aviation system is made up of 78 public-use airports, which serve aviation needs from commercial passenger jet operations to single-engine recreational flights. To understand how Tennessee's airports support the state's economy, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Aeronautics Division undertook the Aviation Economic Impact Study. This study determined that Tennessee's aviation system generated **220,936 jobs** and contributed **\$40 billion** in 2019 to the state's economy, accounting for **11%** of Tennessee's 2019 gross domestic product (GDP).



# **About Elizabethton Municipal Airport**

Elizabethton Municipal Airport (0A9) is minutes away from the Elizabethton central business district and provides easy access to the nearby Smoky Mountains, Cherokee National Forest, Bristol Motor Speedway, and various golf resorts. The airport's proximity to these beautiful locations attracts primarily recreational users, who are easily accommodated on the airport's 5,001-foot runway. Elizabethton Municipal Airport also supports daily business activity, providing a connection between local businesses and the surrounding region. The airport's activity is supported by the airport-owned fixed-base operator, which has 12 employees onsite to provide aircraft servicing and other aviation services. Additionally, the airport has various rental car options including Avis and Enterprise, as well as High Country Car Service, to provide diverse ground transportation options. The nearby Bristol Motor Speedway attracts thousands of NASCAR fans annually, many of which use the airport to access the area.

In order to understand the geographic reach of Elizabethton Municipal Airport, the map below shows a selection of flights that operated both into and out of the airport.

#### **Airport Economic Impacts** Elizabethton Municipal Airport Route Map **BUSINESS REVENUE** million \$7.9 ON-AIRPORT **IMPACTS** million VISITOR \$1.8 **SPENDING** million **IMPACTS (9) IOBS PAYROLL** ADDED \$5.4 74 \$4.1 employed million million

Region 1 is located in beautiful east Tennessee, nestled on the west side of the Appalachian Mountains. Region 1 is known for its tourist destinations, including the Great Smoky Mountains and access to the world-famous Appalachian Trail,

**TDOT REGION 1**  **ON-AIRPORT** 

\$1.4 BILLION

VISITOR **SPENDING**  BILLION

FREIGHT/ **CARGO** 

S4.2 **BILLION** 

Gatlinburg-Pigeon Forge, and the Dollywood Amusement Park. Visitors are welcomed through the Region's two commercial service airports and 13 general aviation airports. From 2018 to 2019, the Region's two commercial service airports, McGhee Tyson Airport (TYS) and Tri-Cities Airport (TRI), saw a combined 15 percent increase in enplanements. In 2019, Region 1's airports welcomed over 880,000 visitors. Visitors are supported by numerous airport tenants, including 26 tenants located on airports in Region 1 that provide hotel, restaurant, rental car, and other tourism-related services. These tourism-related onsite businesses employ 1,341 people and contribute over \$359 million in direct economic impact to the state. In total, the airports in Region 1 generated **36,370 jobs** and contributed **\$7 billion** in 2019 to the state's economy.

# TOTAL ECONOMIC \$40 BILLION

AVIATION CONTRIBUTES

**OF TENNESSEE'S GROSS DOMESTIC** PRODUCT (GDP)

# What is Economic Impact?

The economic impacts of each airport, TDOT Region, and the state are defined by the total jobs, payroll, value added, and business revenue generated by aviation in the state.

#### **IOBS**

**220,936** employed

Number of employed people, including full-time and part-time

#### **PAYROLL**

(6) \$13 billion

Total employment compensation, including wages and other benefits (e.g., healthcare insurance payments, retirement contributions, etc.); also known as "labor income"

#### VALUE ADDED \$21 billion

The economic productivity of each aviation-related business establishment, calculated as business revenue earned minus the cost of purchasing goods and services from other businesses; also reflects a company's or industry's contribution to Tennessee's GDP

# BUSINESS REVENUE (\$) \$40 billion

The incorporation of expenditures needed to administer airports, sales of goods and services by airport tenants, budget expenditures to public sector agencies located on airports, the cost of capital expenditures, and visitor spending in Tennessee's hospitality-related sectors; the term "economic impact" is also used to describe business revenues

### Statewide Aviation Benefits

The statewide economic impact of Tennessee's airports consists of three major categories: On-Airport Activity, Visitor Spending, and Freight/Cargo. Together, they account for \$40 billion in economic impact for Tennessee.

# → On-Airport Activity TOTAL OUTPUT \$12 billion

Impacts related to the activity of airport administration, business tenants, and capital improvements on airports

## → Visitor Spending TOTAL OUTPUT \$9 billion

Impacts related to out-of-state visitor spending at both commercial service and general aviation airports

# + Freight/Cargo TOTAL OUTPUT \$19 billion

Impacts related to air cargo operations



**Kimley** » Horn

For more information on the Tennessee Aviation Economic Impact Study, visit our webpage at