



# **Abernathy Field**

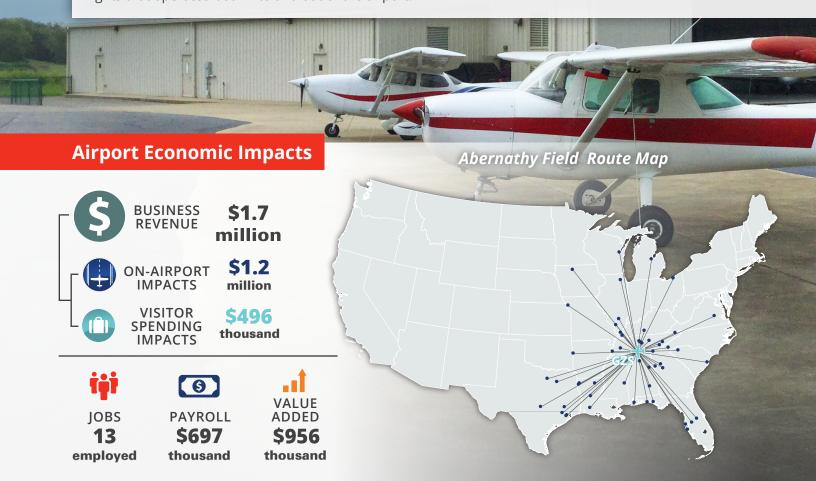
### **Aviation Moves Tennessee**

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 Abernathy Field**

Just outside the town of Pulaski, Abernathy Field (GZS) supports primarily recreational and military users with its 5,310-foot runway. The airport's fixed-base operator, Jones Flying Service, provides aviation services for visitors, including fueling and routine maintenance. The airport also supports several other forms of activity such as aerial agriculture operations and UAS flight testing. Griffon Drones, a UAS company, conducts routine drone testing at the airport, which is one of the only practice facilities in Tennessee. Therefore, the airport is helping to promote further use of unmanned drone technology in the fields of agriculture, business, emergency medical, and military defense.

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



Region 3 is located in west central Tennessee

(BNA), the largest medium-hub airport in the

country, experienced over 100 percent growth in

and is home to one of the nation's most

Nashville. Nashville International Airport

rapidly developing metropolitan areas,

Region (3) **Profile** 

**TDOT REGION 3**  **ON-AIRPORT** 

\$4.7 BILLION

VISITOR **SPENDING**  **BILLION** 

FREIGHT/ **CARGO** 

**S7.8 BILLION** 

enplanements from 2010 to 2019. To support this rapid development, general aviation airports in the area have also grown. John C Tune Airport (JWN) serves as a general aviation reliever airport to Nashville International Airport (BNA). Smyrna Airport (MQY) is supported by 64 onsite businesses employing 751 people—the most of any general aviation airport in the state. Murfreesboro Municipal Airport (MBT) supports the growing general aviation needs of the area, including hosting the Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) flight training program and its almost daily flight training operations. Region 3 has the most airports of any Region in the state, with Nashville International Airport (BNA) and 23 general aviation airports. In 2019, Region 3's airports welcomed nearly **4.3 million visitors**, generated **100,549 jobs**, and contributed **\$18 billion** to the state's economy.

TOTAL ECONOMIC S40 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