



William L. Whitehurst 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 William L. Whitehurst Field

Situated in southwest Tennessee, William L. Whitehurst Field (M08) is located just east of Memphis in the city of Bolivar, William L. Whitehurst Field is located close to Bolivar's central business district and its 5,007-foot runway supports business activity, connecting local businesses with the surrounding communities. Business activity has been bolstered by the addition of a new 10-space T-hangar on the south side of the airfield, which increases opportunities for businesses to base their aircraft at the airport. The airport's sole tenant, Executive Wings LLC, provides aircraft parts and maintenance services onsite, contributing to business activity at the airport. The airport also serves the travel needs for the University of Tennessee (UT). With UT's Lone Oaks Farm located just south of the field, the university uses the airfield to connect into and out of the area.

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

Airport Economic Impacts



BUSINESS REVENUE million



ON-AIRPORT IMPACTS

\$4.0 million



VISITOR **SPENDING IMPACTS**

\$49 thousand



IOBS

19 employed



PAYROLL \$1.0



million



Region 4 is located in west Tennessee and covers

airports support recreational and business users

both within Tennessee and in bordering states.

a diverse region that borders five additional

Mississippi, and Alabama. The Region's 20

states, including Kentucky, Missouri, Arkansas,

Region 4 Profile

TDOT REGION 4
\$11
BILLION

ON-AIRPORT

\$5.1 BILLION

VISITOR SPENDING

\$1.5 BILLION

FREIGHT/ CARGO

\$4.7 BILLION

Memphis International Airport (MEM) is the **second-busiest air cargo airport in the world**, thanks to the presence of the FedEx global hub. Memphis International Airport (MEM) is supported by **three general aviation airports** in Memphis and nearby Millington. One of these airports, Millington-Memphis Airport (NQA), is adjacent to the Canadian National Railroad and the Millington Industrial Park, meaning the airport operates as part of **an intermodal transportation hub**, supporting industry both within and outside the Region. Region 4 airports also support the area's agriculture industry, with **five aerial application companies** being based at airports in the Region. These based tenants employ a total of **19 employees** and contribute **\$724 thousand** in direct economic impact to the state. In 2019, Region 4's airports welcomed approximately **1.1 million visitors**, generated **59,609 jobs**, and contributed **\$11 billion** to the state's economy.

TOTAL ECONOMIC

NOMIC \$40 BILLION

AVIATION CONTRIBUTES

11% 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

İ 220,936 employed

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

PAYROLL

(9) \$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