



## Rockwood 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 Rockwood Municipal Airport

Occupying one of the highest elevations of any airport in Tennessee, Rockwood Municipal Airport (RKW) supports the area's general aviation needs with its 5,000-foot runway. The airport supports frequent military activity for the Army National Guard, located just ten minutes south of the airport. Military activity comprises a whopping 25 percent of total activity at the airport. The airport also supports frequent recreational and sight-seeing flights thanks to its convenient location near the beautiful Mt. Roosevelt State Forest, which spans over 11,000 acres. Rockwood Municipal Airport's onsite tenant, MedTrans, assists with medical emergencies in the surrounding area, accounting for daily medical emergency flights at the airport.

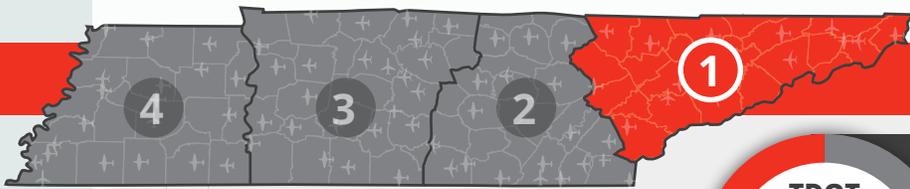
In order to understand the geographic reach of Rockwood Municipal Airport, the map below shows a selection of flights that operated both into and out of the airport.



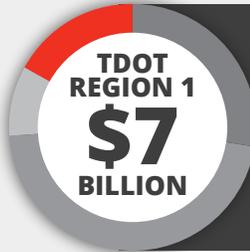
### Airport Economic Impacts

Rockwood Municipal Airport Route Map





## Region 1 Profile



<b>ON-AIRPORT</b>		<b>\$1.4 BILLION</b>
<b>VISITOR SPENDING</b>		<b>\$1.1 BILLION</b>
<b>FREIGHT/CARGO</b>		<b>\$4.2 BILLION</b>

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, 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 IMPACT** **\$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.

**JOBS** **220,936 employed**

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

**PAYROLL** **\$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