The Texas airport system with 289 airports is one of the largest airport systems in the country. It consists of 25 commercial service airports and 264 general aviation airports. These airports play an important role in the Texas economy by providing well-paying jobs, stimulating growth, and serving as critical components in a transportation network that permits the movement of people and goods across the state, throughout the country, and around the world. These airports are responsible for billions of dollars of economic activity, and support a wide assortment of businesses and activities. The state’s commercial service airports serve as hubs for United Airlines, American Airlines, Southwest Airlines, FedEx and UPS Airlines. The general aviation airports are host to a variety of businesses. Aerial applicators, such as M&M Air Service, help crops thrive. Air ambulance services, like PHI Air Medical and CareFlight, are based at general aviation airports throughout Texas in order to provide life-saving emergency flights where needed. Aircraft manufacturing takes place at Kerrville Municipal Airport in the Mooney factory. These airports support firefighting and disaster relief efforts. Aviation schools found on general aviation airports feature training for aircraft mechanics, fixed-wing pilots, helicopter pilots, skydivers, and even drone pilots. Military aircrews make use of many general aviation airports for training purposes. Finally, more than a dozen Texas general aviation airports host aviation museums and other nonprofit aerospace organizations that educate and promote the history of aviation.

Thanks to these businesses and organizations, and the millions of visitors that pass through Texas airports each year, the state’s economy thrives and grows.

Total Impacts of Texas System Airports:
- **778,955 jobs**
- **$30.1 billion in wages and benefits**
- **$94.3 billion in economic output**

Furthermore, more than 17 million visitors passed through the state’s commercial service airports, with another 1.5 million visitors making use of the Lone Star State’s general aviation services.

Study Process:
This study was undertaken by the Texas Department of Transportation’s Aviation Division to improve their strategic planning and funding decisions. Knowledge of each airport’s economic impacts helps the Aviation Division allocate its resources in its efforts to develop and maintain the airport system as a world-class system capable of attracting businesses and visitors to Texas. This, in turn, aids the Aviation Division in supporting infrastructure development projects intended to promote economic growth around the state.
Economic Impact of ARLEDGE FIELD (F56)

**On-Airport Impacts**
- 3 jobs
- $423,000 output

**Capital Improvement Impacts**
- < 1 job
- $60,000 output

**Visitor Impacts**
- 1 job
- $66,000 output

**Multiplier Impacts**
- 6 jobs
- $454,000 output

**Multiplier Impacts**
- 6 jobs
- $454,000 output

**Multiplier Impacts**
- 6 jobs
- $454,000 output

**Total Impacts**
- 10 jobs
- $204,000 payroll
- $1 million output

**SYSTEM BENEFITS:**
Each Texas airport contributes to the state’s economy. On-airport businesses and government entities create a variety of jobs in their communities. Visitors travelling via aircraft use the Texas airport system for quick and easy access for business, recreation, and a multitude of other purposes. These visitor expenditures create additional benefits that ripple through the economy. In addition to jobs, payroll, and output, each airport also contributes to the health and welfare of the state by providing a variety of unique services that can range from emergency medical transport and disaster relief to flight training for the next generation of pilots.

**IMPACT MEASURES**

**Employment** measures the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs related to airport activity including visitor-supported and on-airport construction jobs. A part-time employee counts as half of a full-time employee.

**Payroll** measures the total annual salary, wages, and benefits paid to all workers whose livelihoods are directly attributable to airport activity.

**Output** measures the value of goods and services related to airports in Texas. The output of on-airport businesses is typically assumed to be the sum of annual gross sales and average annual capital expenditures.