



**RESOLUTION TITLE: TO ESTABLISH THE GASTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AIRCRAFT FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners supports the County's economic development, with an emphasis on tax base development, employer diversification, and job creation; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes the need to provide programs and financial support to strengthen and diversify the County's economy, recognizing that broadening the tax base is key to the County's fiscal health; and,

WHEREAS, it is important not only to attract new investment but also to support and encourage existing businesses to expand and reinvest in their Gaston County operations; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County recognizes that the recruitment of aircraft and aviation investment within the County will attract new jobs and a tax base that might otherwise be lost to other counties; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County desires to create an aircraft financial incentive program where a minimum capital investment is made in a new aircraft or aircraft hangar in the County; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Gaston County Economic Development Aircraft Financial Incentive Program provides a three-year incentive period for companies, individuals, or flight departments where the following criteria is met:

1. A company, individual, or flight department must complete the Aircraft Financial Incentive Application. A letter of request, addressed to the County's Director of Economic Development, must accompany the application.
2. An applicant must create a minimum capital investment in a new aircraft or aircraft hangar.
3. The minimum capital investment threshold to qualify for consideration shall be no less than Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000). The investment must be put in place during the agreed upon period of time established with the Financial Incentive Agreement.
4. An applicant must be the principal employer of persons associated with the considered capital investment.

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	AFrale	BHowis	KJohnson	TKelgher	TPhillips	RWorley	Vote
2021-171	06/08/2021	TP	CB	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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**TO ESTABLISH THE GASTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AIRCRAFT FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

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5. The company, individual, or flight department must be the owner of record in the Gaston County Courthouse or demonstrate through contractual means that they are the payer of any and all fees, taxes, fuel, and utilities to Gaston County.

The financial incentive will be calculated as follows:

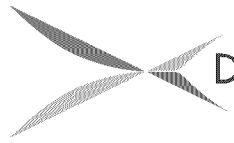
1. The Maximum Financial Incentive Amount is calculated by County staff prior to the Gaston County Board of Commissioners' approval and appropriation of grant monies.
2. The amount awarded is based on the taxable capital investment over the Financial Incentive Period. The amount awarded is the maximum amount of assistance that can be received by the applicant for that specific incentive.
3. The Incentive Period lasts three (3) years, beginning at the time the Request for Funds Form and confirmation of all qualifying criteria have been submitted and received.
4. The Maximum Financial Incentive Amount will be paid in stepped amounts over the Incentive Period.
5. The Financial Incentive Value shall equal 1.0% (0.01) of the Registered Value Incentive Payment given over a three-year period.
6. The Payment Schedule shall be as follows:  
Year 1 = 45%  
Year 2 = 30%  
Year 3 = 25%

The following qualifications must be met in order to be awarded the Financial Incentive payment:

1. Only one (1) financial incentive will be awarded and funded per qualifying aircraft or aircraft hangar, including all associated hangars and land improvements, machinery and equipment purchased or relocated, and jobs created or relocated.
2. To receive any financial incentive monies, a recipient company must be in good standing with Gaston County in regards to all taxes, fees, utilities, ordinances, etc.
3. Financial Incentive payments will only be made when the minimum investment of new aircraft has been met and the recipient company has agreed to the assessed value of the qualifying aircraft, unless variances were agreed to by Gaston County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners creates the Gaston County Economic Development Aircraft Financial Incentive Program pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes § 158-7.1.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Gaston County Economic Development Aircraft Financial Incentive Program shall apply effective June 8, 2021.



DIVISION OF AVIATION  
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

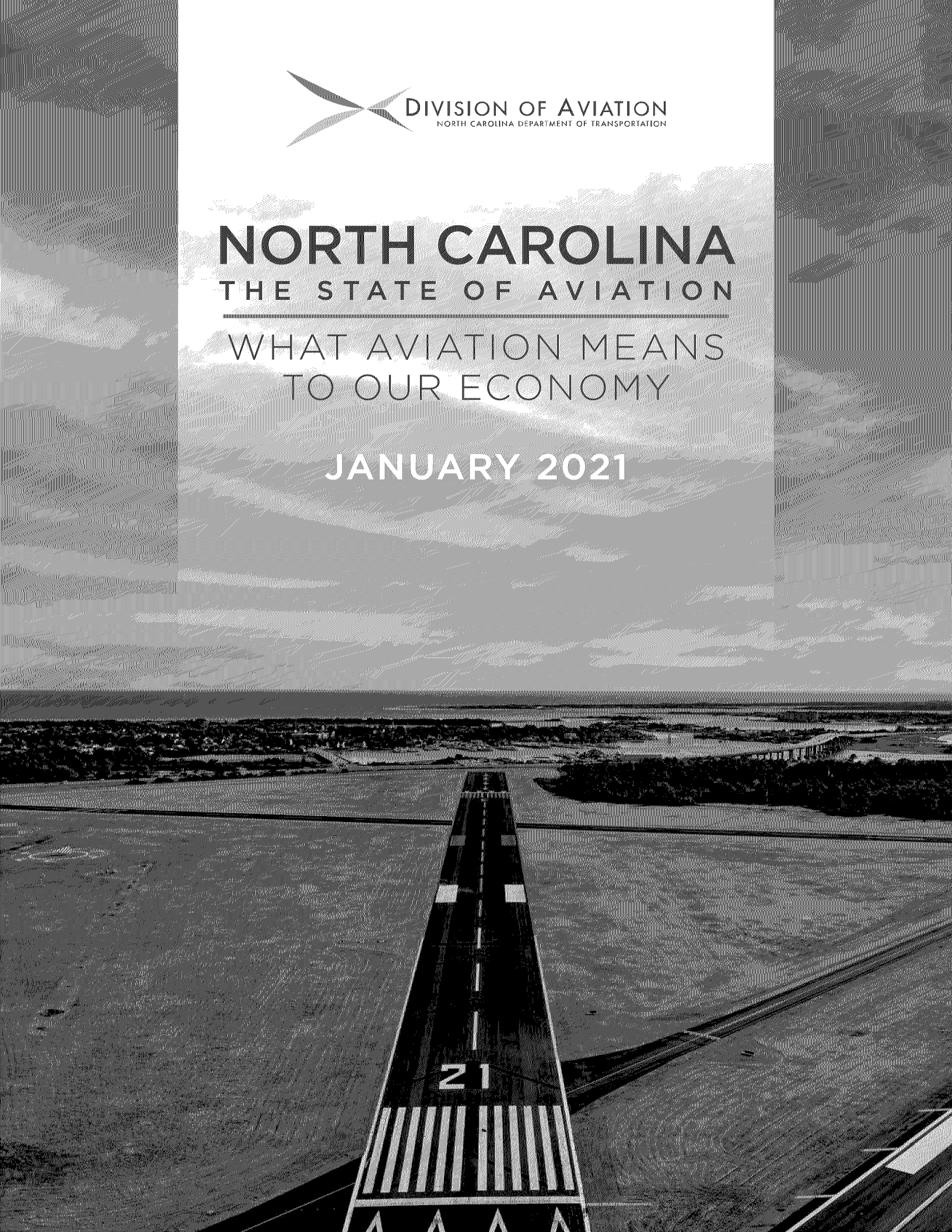
# NORTH CAROLINA

## THE STATE OF AVIATION

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WHAT AVIATION MEANS  
TO OUR ECONOMY

JANUARY 2021





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“Our network of 72 publicly owned airports, and the aviation and aerospace assets that rely on them, move our economy forward by creating jobs, supporting business growth and connecting people and companies to markets around the globe.”

Bobby Walston, Director  
N.C. Department of Transportation Division of Aviation

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# NORTH CAROLINA: THE STATE OF AVIATION

2020 was one of the hardest years on record for airports and the wider aviation industry at large. Seemingly overnight, much of the industry was shut down as the Coronavirus pandemic struck our country and the world.

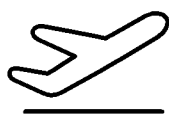
Impacts were swift and significant, but varied by sector. While commercial airline travel and related activities like concessions revenues declined, other sectors such as private air charters and air freight grew.

In this biennial report, we analyze 2019 data. It reveals the significant economic impacts of North Carolina's public airports and the broad ecosystem they support. The data will provide a benchmark for tracking the recovery that's expected in 2021.

North Carolina's public airports annually contribute **\$61 billion** to the state's economy, supporting **373,000 jobs** that generate **\$15 billion** in personal income and **\$2.5 billion** in state and local tax revenues.

Our network of 72 publicly owned airports, and the aviation and aerospace assets that rely on them, move our economy forward by creating jobs, supporting business growth and connecting people and companies to markets around the globe.

We invite you to learn about the many ways our airports keep North Carolina's economy moving, and join us as we work to take aviation and aerospace innovation to new heights.



**\$61**  
**BILLION**  
ECONOMIC  
IMPACT



**373,000**  
JOBS



**\$15**  
**BILLION**  
IN PERSONAL  
INCOME



**\$2.5**  
**BILLION**  
IN TAX  
REVENUE

*Impact figures are based on 2019 survey data from N.C. airports, tenants, vendors and supported businesses*



# AIRPORT SYSTEM

North Carolina's system of 72 public airports support the transport of more than 70 million business and leisure travelers each year. They also move 1.1 million tons of high-value, time-sensitive cargo such as medical supplies and advanced manufacturing components.

Ninety-four percent of the state's population lives within a 30-minute drive of a public airport.

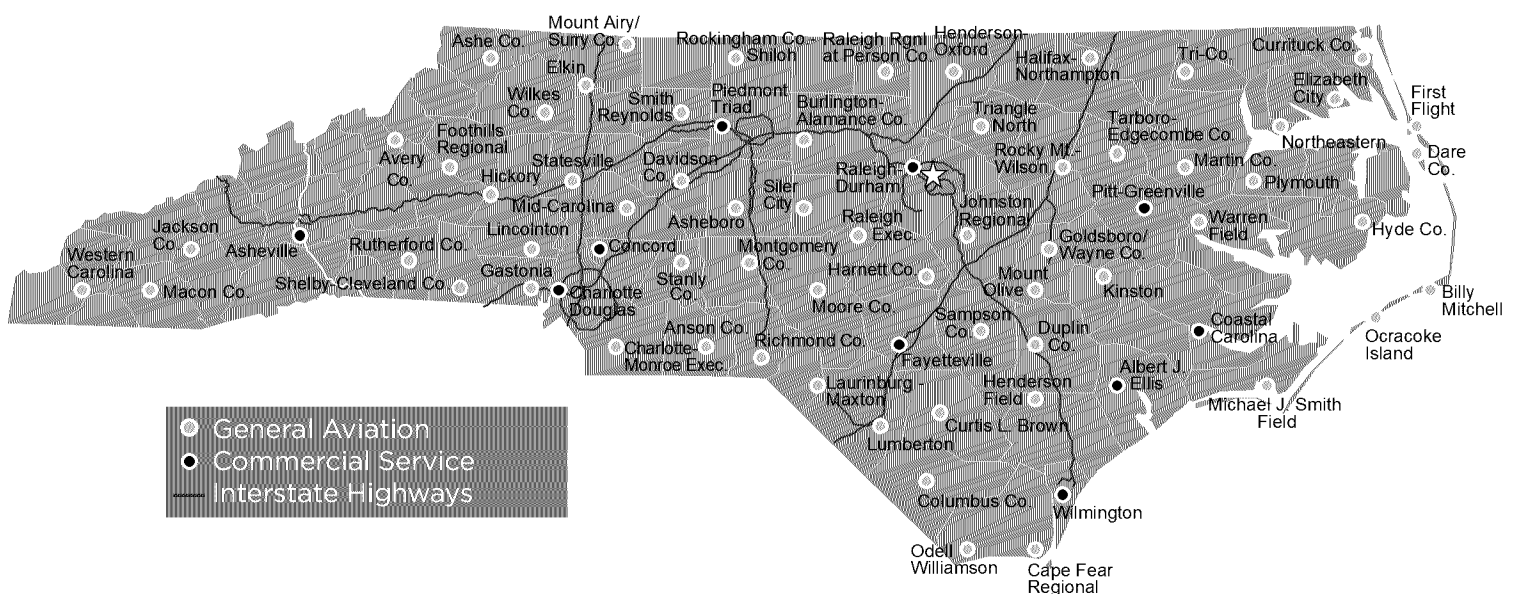
Sixty-two airports classified as general aviation connect local businesses and communities to global markets, house and refuel private aircraft, support military and agricultural aviation, and provide aviation services such as aerial photography and pilot training. Ten additional airports classified as commercial service airports also offer regularly scheduled air service.

All airports generate significant economic return for their communities and the state.

The N.C. Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation, with funding from the State of North Carolina and the Federal Aviation Administration, supports airport development and operations with grants, long-range planning, aviation business development, technical assistance and airport management training.

**The goal: drive innovation and sector development that provides leading-edge aviation services for North Carolina, creating a strong aviation economy.**

## NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC AIRPORTS







# PASSENGER SERVICE

Flying out of the 10 commercial service airports in North Carolina, 14 commercial airlines connect North Carolina travelers to 187 destinations worldwide.

Commercial airlines own more than \$1.2 billion of property in North Carolina that generates substantial tax revenues for the state and local communities.

COMMERCIAL AIRLINES OPERATING AT N.C. AIRPORTS		
AIRPORT	ANNUAL PASSENGERS	DESTINATIONS
Albert J. Ellis (Jacksonville) (OAJ)	326,000	2
Asheville Regional (AVL)	1,617,000	21
Charlotte Douglas International (CLT)	50,200,000	178
Coastal Carolina Regional (New Bern) (EWN)	225,000	2
Concord Regional (JQF)	260,000	7
Fayetteville Regional (FAY)	434,000	2
Piedmont Triad International (Greensboro) (PTI)	2,156,000	14
Pitt-Greenville (PGV)	109,000	1
Raleigh-Durham International (RDU)	14,219,000	57
Wilmington International (ILM)	1,060,000	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70,606,000</b>	<b>187*</b>

\* total of unique destinations

## FAST FACTS

**14**  
**COMMERCIAL**  
**AIRLINES**

**14,700**  
**JOBS**

**10th**  
**HIGHEST STATE FOR**  
**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT**

**12.7%**  
**AIRLINE JOB**  
**GROWTH, 2015-19**

**187**  
**CITIES AND MARKETS**  
**CONNECTED WORLDWIDE**



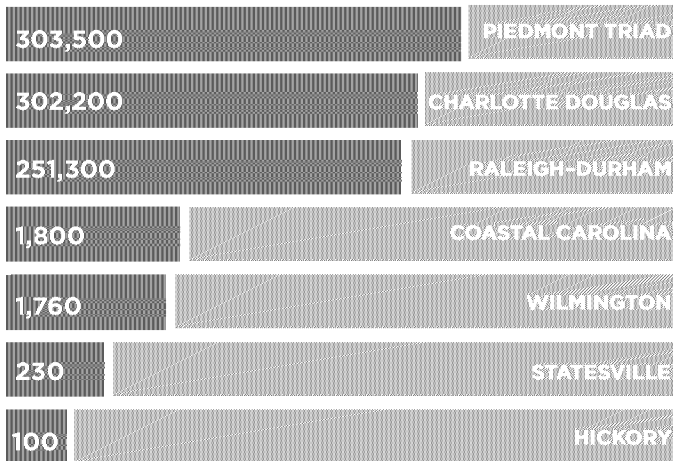
# AIR CARGO

North Carolina airports provide freight air services in support of the state's aviation economy. Air freight helps meet the global demand for the rapid movement of goods such as overnight packages and time-sensitive medical items.

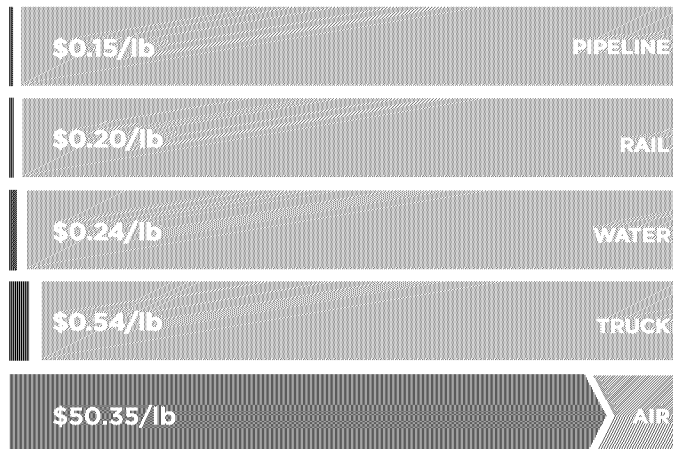
Airports connect their air freight systems to rail, port and truck freight systems, making them prime hubs for high-value goods traveling quickly and efficiently.

North Carolina ranks 16th among states in total tons of air freight cargo moved each year—more than 1.1 million tons worth more than \$23 billion. North Carolina ranks eighth in the country for employment in air freight services.

## ANNUAL CARGO IN TONS



## VALUE OF SHIPMENT PER LB. BY MODE

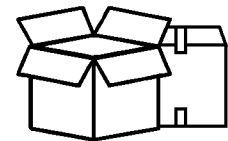


## TOP N.C. AIR CARGO CARRIERS

ABS AIR  
 AMAZON PRIME AIR  
 AMERICAN AIRLINES  
 CARGO  
 ATLAS AIR  
 DELTA CARGO  
 FEDEX  
 LUFTHANSA CARGO  
 SOUTHWEST CARGO  
 U.S. AIRWAYS  
 UPS



**2,700**  
JOBS



**15**  
AIR CARGO  
COMPANIES





# SUPPORT INDUSTRIES

Airport-related businesses provide valuable support for airlines and airport customers, and boost the state's economy.

Thirteen rental car companies serve the state's 10 commercial services airports, many with locations at each airport. Rental car companies also serve many of the general aviation airports across the state. North Carolina benefits from an eight percent tax on short-term leases and rentals of motor vehicles, which totaled more than \$84 million in 2019.

Fuel suppliers also play a significant role in the aviation industry, with 527 million gallons of fuel sold in North Carolina in 2019.

North Carolina gains significant returns from 3,300 aircraft based at the state's general aviation facilities. For example, the owner of a \$23 million plane based at Statesville Regional Airport pays local property taxes equivalent to those paid by owners of 115 \$200,000 homes, without the same need for supporting government services.

## FAST FACTS

**13**  
**AIRPORT-BASED RENTAL  
CAR COMPANIES**

**3,300**  
**BASED AIRCRAFT**

**\$11.6 MILLION**  
**TAX REVENUES  
GENERATED BY  
BASED AIRCRAFT**

**527 MILLION**  
**GALLONS OF FUEL  
SOLD ANNUALLY**





# AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING

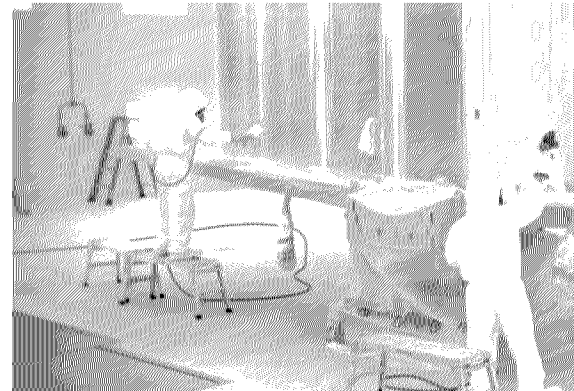
North Carolina's aerospace manufacturing sector grew by 13 percent from 2015-2019 on the strength of companies like Boeing, Cessna, GE Aviation, Honda Aircraft, Lockheed Martin and Spirit AeroSystems that call the state their home.

The state's 200+ aerospace manufacturing companies employ 6,887 people. These companies focus primarily on:

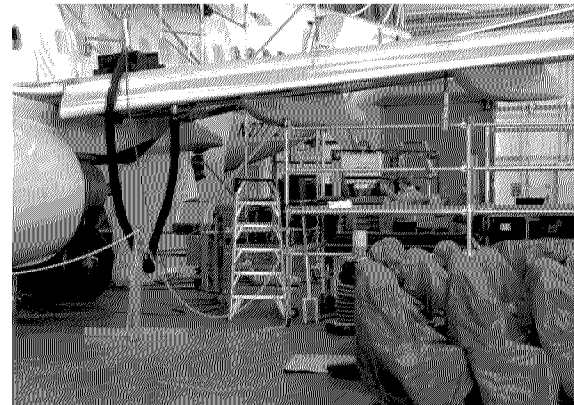
- Aircraft, engines and engine parts;
- Search, detection and navigation instruments; and
- Manufacturing and supplying goods for the aviation industry, from tires and tray tables to carbon and graphite products.

Manufacturing thrives in North Carolina thanks to the nation's lowest corporate tax rate (among the states that assess corporate taxes). It also boasts a highly educated and skilled population, a significant military-to-workforce pipeline, and a renowned, workforce-focused community college system that combine to create an ideal environment for manufacturing to thrive.

The state boasts 3,200 miles of active freight railroads, two ports, an inland intermodal terminal and nearly 80,000 miles of state roadways, the nation's second largest state-maintained roadway system. This connectivity enables North Carolina manufacturing companies to reach global and national markets.



*Honda Aircraft Company,  
Piedmont Triad International Airport*



*Mountain Air Cargo,  
N.C. Global TransPark/Kinston Regional Jetport*



**6,887**  
JOBS



**2.5%**  
CORPORATE  
TAX RATE

**200+**  
COMPANIES



**2<sup>nd</sup>**

**FASTEST-GROWING AEROSPACE  
MANUFACTURING SECTOR  
IN THE COUNTRY**

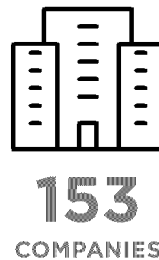
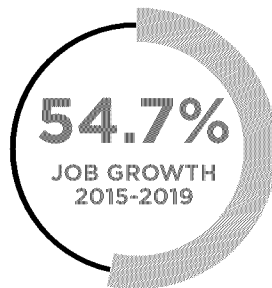


# AEROSPACE MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND OVERHAUL

More than 153 companies and 4,583 skilled workers support North Carolina's aerospace sector with critical maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services. North Carolina ranks fifth in the nation in MRO employment, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Multiple MRO firms, including DRS Technologies and Vector CSP, operate near the Elizabeth City Coast Guard Air Station, supporting the needs of the U.S. Coast Guard's aircraft fleet.

Greensboro's HAECO Americas, the largest commercial aerospace MRO company operating in North Carolina, employs nearly 3,000 people.





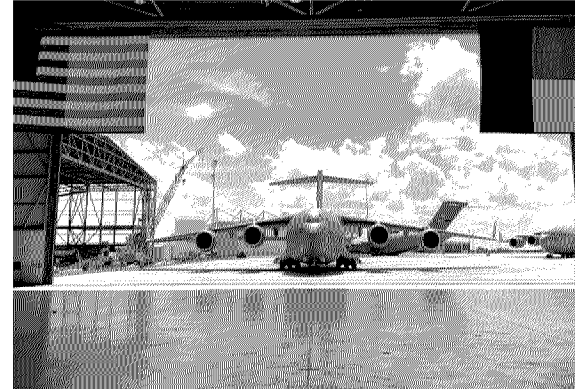
# MILITARY AVIATION

Military aviation provides significant employment in North Carolina, with eight locations employing 70,000 people. Among these is Fort Bragg, the largest military base in the world, employing more than 50,000 people.

North Carolina's military population provides one of the largest workforce pipelines in the country, with approximately 21,000 trained veterans entering the civilian workforce every year.

A 2019 study showed North Carolina businesses earned \$3 billion in defense contracts to produce military and defense products.

Military aviation also greatly contributes to the state's public airports. Each year, approximately 200,000 military operations occur at the state's 72 public airports, providing revenue and jobs for local communities.



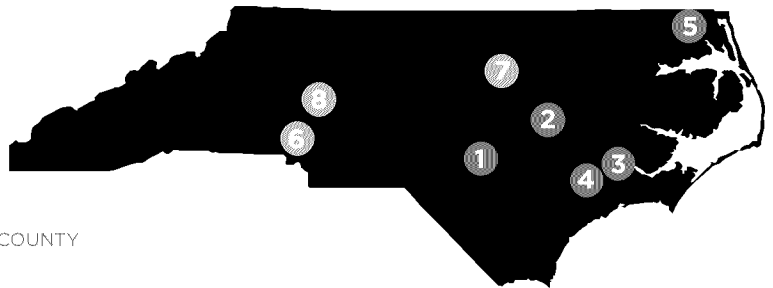
*N.C. National Guard 145th Airlift Wing,  
Charlotte Douglas International Airport*

## KEY MILITARY AVIATION LOCATIONS

- 1 POPE FIELD AT FORT BRAGG | FAYETTEVILLE
- 2 SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE | GOLDSBORO
- 3 MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT | HAVELOCK
- 4 MARINE CORPS AIR STATION NEW RIVER | JACKSONVILLE
- 5 ELIZABETH CITY COAST GUARD AIR STATION

### N.C. NATIONAL GUARD


- 6 145TH AIRLIFT WING | CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS AND STANLY COUNTY
- 7 449TH THEATER AVIATION BRIGADE | RALEIGH-DURHAM
- 8 449TH THEATER AVIATION BRIGADE | ROWAN COUNTY




**21,000**  
TRANSITIONING  
MILITARY



**70,000**  
JOBS



**21,000**  
TRAINED VETERANS  
ENTERING THE  
WORKFORCE ANNUALLY

**\$3  
BILLION**  
IN DEFENSE CONTRACTS EARNED  
BY NC COMPANIES IN 2019



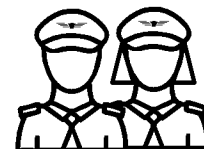
# UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

North Carolina has positioned itself as a leader across the unmanned aircraft systems (UAS, or drones) industry. The state counted more than 33,000 recreational flyers and 5,000 permitted commercial and government operators at the end of 2020.

NCDOT's participation in the FAA's UAS Integration Pilot Program, with partners Matternet, Zipline, UPS Flight Forward and Volansi, led to a number of industry breakthroughs. This includes the first fully operational commercial drone delivery service at WakeMed Hospital in Raleigh and the first waiver for full Beyond Visual Line of Sight drone operations to be used in bridge inspections.

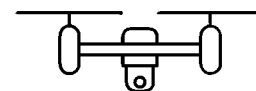
Leading-edge UAS education and research efforts are underway at schools of all levels in the state. More than two dozen high schools now include drones as part of their STEM curriculum. Community colleges promote drone safety by creating certifications and training for commercial and public safety professionals. Montgomery Community College operates the N.C. Public Safety Drone Academy, equipping regional emergency responders to become drone pilots. Elizabeth City State University offers one of the nation's first four-year UAS degree programs.

North Carolina-based PrecisionHawk, the world's most well-capitalized commercial drone venture, has continued to expand its ability to provide services around the world and across industries, adding product offerings in energy, insurance, government and construction.



**33,293**

RECREATIONAL PILOTS



**5,000**

COMMERCIAL PILOTS



*A NCDOT crew uses a drone to control invasive plants near Bodie Island Lighthouse in Cape Hatteras National Seashore.*



# AVIATION EDUCATION

North Carolina's robust higher education sector provides an abundant supply of well-educated and highly skilled talent to meet the needs of aviation and aerospace industries, as well as researching innovative technologies that propel the industry forward.

Four-year universities and community colleges offer more than 28 degree programs that are relevant to aviation and the aerospace sector. For example:

- **Elizabeth City State University** offers a four-year aviation science bachelor's degree, with specializations in flight education, air traffic control, aviation electronics (avionics) and aviation management. ECSU also offers one of the nation's first four-year drone education programs.
- **Guilford Technical Community College** offers associate degrees and diploma programs in avionics, aviation management, aviation manufacturing and aviation system technology.
- **Eighteen N.C. Community Colleges** offer workforce development programs in aerospace and aviation, including unmanned aircraft systems. These include certifications, diplomas and associate degree programs ranging from Private Pilot Ground School to Aviation Systems Technology and Aviation Electronics.



North Carolina's strong K-12 STEM education initiative also supports the aviation workforce, including operating aviation-focused high schools such as Northeast Academy for Aerospace and Advanced Technologies in Elizabeth City.

The N.C. Community College System and the N.C. Department of Commerce provide extensive workforce development support, certificate and degree programs, and customized training for companies. These organizations are aligned with the myFutureNC goal of ensuring 2 million North Carolinians, ages 25 to 44, have a high-quality credential or a postsecondary degree by the year 2030.



**20,500**

ANNUAL STEM  
POST-SECONDARY  
GRADUATES



**1,134**

ANNUAL STUDENTS  
IN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
AVIATION PROGRAMS



**366**

ANNUAL STUDENTS  
IN FOUR-YEAR  
AVIATION PROGRAMS



**28**

POST-SECONDARY  
AVIATION PROGRAMS

# AVIATION AND AEROSPACE-RELATED DEGREE PROGRAMS

UNIVERSITY	PROGRAM	CURRENTLY ENROLLED
Duke	Aerospace Engineering	17
ECSU	Aerospace Engineering & Unmanned Aircraft Systems	117
NCSU	Aerospace Engineering	443

Source: Higher education institutions. Enrollment as of Spring 2019.

\*Total graduates from 2019-20 academic year

COLLEGE	PROGRAM	STUDENTS
Alamance CC	Drone Pilot Licensing	16
Asheville-Buncombe TCC	Drone Remote Pilot Certificate	33
	Aviation Management & Career Pilot Technology	98
Brunswick CC	Advanced Law Enforcement UAS	3
Cape Fear CC	Private Pilot Ground School	7
Coastal Carolina CC	Commercial Drone License - Prep	7
College of The Albemarle	Drones: An Introduction	23
	Aviation Systems Technology	36
Craven CC	Avionic Electronic Technician	10
	Aviation Systems Technology	68
Durham TCC	FAA Remote Pilot Flight Training	10
	FAA Remote Pilot Prep	11
Edgecombe CC	UAS Drone Intro/Public Safety	24
Fayetteville TCC	Airframe & Powerplant Prep	22
	Drone Training Part I	13
Gaston College	Private Pilot Ground School	15
	UAS Drone Intro/Public Safety	19
Guilford TCC	Aerostructure Manufacturing and Repair	32
	Aviation Electronics (Avionics) Technology	69
	Aviation Management & Career Pilot Technology	146
	Aviation Systems Technology	293
Lenoir CC	UAS Drone Intro/Public Safety	4
	Introduction to Drones	16
	Aviation Management & Career Pilot Technology	38
Sandhills CC	Drone Flight Certification	41
	Aviation Management & Career Pilot Technology	22
Surry CC	Small Unmanned Aircraft System	10
Wake TCC	FAA Part 107: Commercial Drone	21
Wayne CC	Aviation Systems Technology	54

Source: North Carolina Community College System (Enrollment as of Spring 2019)





# ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF N.C. AIRPORTS

## ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

AIRPORT TYPE	JOBS	PERSONAL INCOME	STATE AND LOCAL TAXES	ECONOMIC OUTPUT
Commercial Service	345,230	\$13,638,240,000	\$2,287,890,000	<b>\$55,532,450,000</b>
General Aviation	27,315	\$1,386,920,000	\$187,102,000	<b>\$5,229,420,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>372,545</b>	<b>\$15,025,160,000</b>	<b>\$2,474,992,000</b>	<b>\$60,761,820,000</b>

## COMMERCIAL SERVICE AIRPORT IMPACTS

AIRPORT AND NAME	CITY/TOWN	JOBS	PERSONAL INCOME	STATE AND LOCAL TAXES	ECONOMIC OUTPUT
OAJ Albert J. Ellis	Jacksonville	3,460	\$124,990,000	\$19,984,000	<b>\$565,810,000</b>
AVL Asheville Regional	Asheville	12,520	\$401,760,000	\$65,424,000	<b>\$1,945,850,000</b>
CLT Charlotte Douglas International	Charlotte	169,390	\$6,842,150,000	\$1,304,950,000	<b>\$24,585,900,000</b>
EWN Coastal Carolina Regional	New Bern	2,710	\$99,710,000	\$16,565,000	<b>\$456,750,000</b>
JQF Concord Regional	Concord	5,070	\$212,510,000	\$34,873,000	<b>\$831,540,000</b>
FAY Fayetteville Regional/Grannis Field	Fayetteville	4,575	\$173,480,000	\$28,610,000	<b>\$790,240,000</b>
GSO Piedmont Triad International	Greensboro	30,015	\$1,630,780,000	\$204,727,000	<b>\$8,641,160,000</b>
PGV Pitt-Greenville	Greenville	1,770	\$81,460,000	\$9,480,000	<b>\$321,160,000</b>
RDU Raleigh-Durham International	Raleigh/Durham	99,335	\$3,498,730,000	\$518,287,000	<b>\$15,146,510,000</b>
ILM Wilmington International	Wilmington	16,385	\$572,670,000	\$84,990,000	<b>\$2,247,480,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>345,230</b>	<b>\$13,638,240,000</b>	<b>\$2,287,890,000</b>	<b>\$55,532,400,000</b>

## QUANTIFYING IMPACTS

The latest analysis of the economic impacts of North Carolina's public airports, conducted by North Carolina State University's Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE), reveals aviation-related businesses that engage with the state's 10 commercial service and 62 general aviation airports contribute more than \$61 billion in economic output, 373,000 jobs, \$15 billion in personal income and \$2.5 billion in state and local tax revenues, based on ITRE's 2020 analysis of 2019 airport data. The economic impacts of the 2020 COVID pandemic are not reflected in this data.

The commercial service airport analysis quantified the impacts of leisure visitors, on-airport contributions (jobs, income and spending by tenants such as airlines, rental car companies and airport security) and the impact of airport capital projects and operations (construction, facility maintenance and operational services).

The general aviation airport analysis quantified the impact of jobs supported by the airport directly, jobs supported by businesses that rely on the airport, and the impact of visitors.





# GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT IMPACTS

GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT IMPACTS						
	AIRPORT AND NAME	CITY/TOWN	JOBS	PERSONAL INCOME	STATE AND LOCAL TAXES	ECONOMIC OUTPUT
AFP	Anson County - Jeff Cloud Field	Wadesboro	65	\$3,700,000	\$581,000	\$23,060,000
GEV	Ashe County	Jefferson	235	\$13,540,000	\$1,356,000	\$54,190,000
HBI	Asheboro Regional	Asheboro	110	\$5,630,000	\$624,000	\$18,160,000
7A8	Avery County/Morrison Field	Spruce Pine	145	\$6,140,000	\$560,000	\$21,260,000
HSE	Billy Mitchell	Hatteras	20	\$1,170,000	\$1,356,000	\$3,140,000
BUY	Burlington-Alamance Regional	Burlington	1,065	\$49,400,000	\$6,242,000	\$172,020,000
SUT	Cape Fear Rgnl Jetport/Howie Franklin Fld	Oak Island	1,985	\$87,410,000	\$11,119,000	\$280,560,000
EQY	Charlotte-Monroe Executive	Monroe	320	\$15,950,000	\$1,881,000	\$26,440,000
CPC	Columbus County Municipal	Whiteville	515	\$31,420,000	\$20,511,000	\$167,090,000
ONX	Currituck County Regional	Currituck	65	\$2,930,000	\$413,000	\$9,400,000
EYF	Curtis L Brown, Jr. Field	Elizabethtown	50	\$2,670,000	\$211,000	\$13,520,000
MQI	Dare County Regional	Manteo	480	\$19,230,000	\$3,800,000	\$72,600,000
EXX	Davidson County	Lexington	520	\$22,870,000	\$2,826,000	\$70,900,000
DPL	Duplin County	Kenansville	280	\$13,450,000	\$1,349,000	\$64,810,000
ECG	Elizabeth City CG Air Station/Regional	Elizabeth City	2,790	\$124,860,000	\$9,293,000	\$479,780,000
ZEF	Elkin Municipal	Elkin	65	\$3,510,000	\$554,000	\$12,210,000
FFA	First Flight	Kill Devil Hills	135	\$4,690,000	\$604,000	\$4,120,000
MRN	Foothills Regional	Morganton	90	\$3,660,000	\$509,000	\$10,020,000
AKH	Gastonia Municipal	Gastonia	50	\$2,280,000	\$261,000	\$6,400,000
IXA	Halifax - Northampton Regional	Roanoke Rapids	145	\$5,510,000	\$678,000	\$17,580,000
HRJ	Harnett Regional Jetport	Erwin	710	\$44,000,000	\$6,016,000	\$190,050,000
ACZ	Henderson Field	Wallace	30	\$2,040,000	\$227,000	\$5,260,000
HNZ	Henderson-Oxford	Oxford	60	\$2,190,000	\$318,000	\$15,010,000
HKY	Hickory Regional	Hickory	310	\$13,400,000	\$1,737,000	\$43,130,000
7W6	Hyde County	Englehard	5	\$550,000	\$59,000	\$1,880,000
24A	Jackson County	Sylva	15	\$680,000	\$97,000	\$2,280,000
JNX	Johnston Regional	Smithfield	860	\$40,530,000	\$5,888,000	\$121,330,000
ISO	Kinston Regional Jetport at Stallings Field	Kinston	2,105	\$115,000,000	\$10,994,000	\$487,170,000
MEB	Laurinburg-Maxton	Maxton	595	\$30,720,000	\$381,000	\$95,430,000
IPJ	Lincolnton-Lincoln County Regional	Lincolnton	140	\$5,770,000	\$886,000	\$17,650,000
LBT	Lumberton Municipal	Lumberton	130	\$5,030,000	\$385,000	\$15,520,000
1A5	Macon County	Franklin	130	\$6,520,000	\$707,000	\$18,790,000
MCZ	Martin County	Williamston	65	\$2,730,000	\$369,000	\$7,850,000
MRH	Michael J Smith Field	Beaufort	315	\$12,370,000	\$1,632,000	\$34,880,000
43A	Montgomery County	Star	5	\$590,000	\$104,000	\$1,720,000
SOP	Moore County	Pinehurst/Southern Pines	320	\$20,390,000	\$3,160,000	\$93,300,000
MWK	Mt Airy/Surry County	Mount Airy	2,545	\$129,390,000	\$22,716,000	\$691,050,000
W40	Mt Olive Municipal	Mount Olive	210	\$10,870,000	\$670,000	\$21,880,000
EDE	Northeastern Regional	Edenton	70	\$3,710,000	\$494,000	\$10,450,000
W95	Ocracoke Island	Ocracoke	20	\$990,000	\$87,000	\$5,470,000
60J	Odell Williamson Municipal	Ocean Isle Beach	75	\$2,740,000	\$360,000	\$7,130,000
PMZ	Plymouth Municipal	Plymouth	55	\$2,140,000	\$283,000	\$5,920,000
TTA	Raleigh Exec Jetport at Sanford-Lee County	Sanford	490	\$20,220,000	\$2,417,000	\$62,710,000
TDF	Raleigh Regional at Person County	Roxboro	275	\$14,950,000	\$2,070,000	\$72,810,000
RCZ	Richmond County	Rockingham	35	\$1,770,000	\$193,000	\$4,670,000
SIF	Rockingham County/NC Shiloh	Reidsville	435	\$19,730,000	\$864,000	\$64,310,000
RWI	Rocky Mount-Wilson Regional	Rocky Mount	450	\$26,400,000	\$2,861,000	\$70,500,000
RUQ	Rowan County	Salisbury	850	\$43,240,000	\$5,151,000	\$145,970,000
FQD	Rutherford County-Marchman Field	Rutherfordton	85	\$3,720,000	\$746,000	\$13,740,000
CTZ	Sampson County	Clinton	25	\$1,290,000	\$170,000	\$4,600,000
EHO	Shelby - Cleveland County Regional	Shelby	320	\$13,310,000	\$1,901,000	\$52,920,000
SCR	Siler City Municipal	Siler City	45	\$1,650,000	\$405,000	\$8,200,000
INT	Smith-Reynolds	Winston-Salem	3,665	\$230,750,000	\$29,022,000	\$814,800,000
VUJ	Stanly County	Albemarle	490	\$30,180,000	\$3,255,000	\$136,770,000
SVH	Statesville Regional	Statesville	850	\$41,380,000	\$8,733,000	\$139,200,000
ETC	Tarboro-Edgecombe	Tarboro	50	\$2,350,000	\$61,000	\$13,440,000
LHZ	Triangle North Executive	Louisburg	230	\$9,880,000	\$1,330,000	\$26,780,000
ASJ	Tri-County Airport at Henry Joyner Field	Ahoskie	35	\$1,520,000	\$213,000	\$4,470,000
OCW	Warren Field	Washington	205	\$8,210,000	\$925,000	\$23,310,000
GWW	Wayne Executive Jetport	Goldsboro	345	\$16,650,000	\$1,847,000	\$58,170,000
RHP	Western Carolina Regional	Andrews	370	\$21,870,000	\$1,901,000	\$76,170,000
UKF	Wilkes County	North Wilkesboro	165	\$5,480,000	\$739,000	\$15,470,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>27,315</b>	<b>\$1,386,920,000</b>	<b>\$187,102,000</b>	<b>\$5,229,420,000</b>



# NORTH CAROLINA

## AIRPORT IMPACTS



**\$61**  
**BILLION**  
ECONOMIC  
IMPACT



**373,000**  
JOBS



**\$15**  
**BILLION**  
IN PERSONAL  
INCOME



**\$2.5**  
**BILLION**  
IN TAX  
REVENUE



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ncaviation



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The North Carolina Department of Transportation Division of Aviation promotes the economic well-being of North Carolina by developing a safe and robust air transportation system.

Bobby Walston, Director  
N.C. Department of Transportation Division of Aviation  
1050 Meridian Drive, Morrisville, NC 27560  
919-814-0550  
[ncdot.gov/aviation](http://ncdot.gov/aviation)



**Office of the City Manager**

**May 27, 2021**

**Dr. Kim Eagle  
County Manager  
128 West Main Avenue  
Gastonia, NC 29053**

**Dear Dr. Eagle:**

On behalf of the Mayor and Council of the City of Gastonia, I would like to update you on the economic benefit of the Gastonia Municipal Airport for Gaston County, the surrounding area, and for general aviation. The North Carolina Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation releases an annual economic report on the positive impact of the state's airports on the economy. The 2021 reports states that the Gastonia Municipal Airport creates annually 50 jobs, a personal income of \$2,280,000, \$261,000 in state and local taxes, and has a total economic output of \$6,400,000 (please see attached NCDOT Division of Aviation Study).

The City of Gastonia has owned and operated the airport for over half a century and has served many citizens and aviators. The airport has served as the home airport for corporations, offered charter plane services, maintained many planes, and has served as the training grounds for many citizens who have earned their pilot licenses.

The City looks forward to partnering with the County, State, and Federal governments to make substantial improvements to this facility in the future. The City has already invested over \$1,000,000 in the last five years for improved safety features and other items. In the near future the airport will feature a self-serve fueling station. The City is also working with NCDOT in studying how the runway can be lengthened to over 5,000 feet so that the airport can host additional jets and larger airplanes.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me via phone or email at [michaelp@cityofgastonia.com](mailto:michaelp@cityofgastonia.com).

Sincerely,

Michael C. Peoples  
City Manager



# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## County Attorney

## Board Action

File #: 21-222

Commissioners Keigher & Philbeck - County Attorney - To Establish the Gaston County Economic Development Aircraft Financial Incentive Program

### STAFF CONTACT

Jonathan L. Sink - County Attorney

### BUDGET IMPACT

N/A

### BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

N/A

### BACKGROUND

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners supports the County's economic development, with an emphasis on tax base development, employer diversification, and job creation.

The Commission recognizes the need to provide programs and financial support to strengthen and diversify the County's economy, recognizing that broadening the tax base is key to the County's fiscal health.

The recruitment of aircraft and aviation investment within the County will attract new jobs and a tax base that might otherwise be lost to other counties.

The Commission desires to create an aircraft financial incentive program where a minimum capital investment is made in a new aircraft or aircraft hangar in the County.

The Gaston County Board of Commissioners shall establish the Gaston County Economic Development Aircraft Financial Incentive Program pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes § 158-7.1, which shall take effect June 8, 2021.

### POLICY IMPACT

N/A

### ATTACHMENTS

Resolution, NC The State of Aviation Brochure and City of Gastonia Letter

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	AFraley	BHovis	KJohnson	TKeigher	TPhilbeck	RWorley	Vote
2021-171	06/08/2021	TP	CB	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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