

Economic Impact

Waukesha County Airport (UES)

Airports & Economic Development

Waukesha County Airport is an important gateway from our community to the rest of the country and the world.

As an important part of the statewide transportation network, Waukesha County Airport/Crites Field plays a vital role in fostering both economic development and business growth in the area.

The Waukesha County Airport allows local businesses to easily access air transportation which in turn saves them valuable time and money. They are able to move both personnel and goods quickly and efficiently making Waukesha County Airport a vital resource for these companies.

As of 2002, General Aviation Airports in Wisconsin generated over \$883.4 million of Direct Economic Impact for Wisconsin along with providing over 6500 jobs and over \$280 million in income to Wisconsin workers. Of these statistics, Waukesha County Airport added over \$493,000 to the county and over \$100,000 to the state in direct economic benefits. The jobs at Crites Field produced sales in excess of \$29.5 million and paid \$12.3 million in wage income to the local economy.ⁱ

Waukesha County Airport also provides facilities for emergency medical flights, pilot training, agricultural spraying, law enforcement, recreational flying and many other important community services.

A local General Aviation Airport can give a community a competitive advantage in attracting new business opportunities and

business expansion because of its accessibility to the quick, efficient, and reliable transportation that a General Aviation Airport can supply. In turn, these opportunities can provide both economic and quality of life benefits to local citizens.



Location

The Waukesha County Airport is conveniently located between two large metropolitan areas in the state of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and Madison. It is no more than five minutes off of Interstate-94 on Aviation Drive.

As the population continues to grow in Waukesha County, so should the demand for the Waukesha County Airport. From the year 2000 to the year 2008 the population has grown by 19,862, bringing the population up to 380,629.ⁱⁱ

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the median household income in Waukesha County is \$72,432. This is much higher than the state average household income of \$50,567, which means that the Waukesha County Airport is situated in one of the more affluent areas of Wisconsin.ⁱⁱⁱ

Airport Activity and Facilities

The Waukesha County Airport is used to transport goods, services, and the general population. According to the Wisconsin State Airport System Plan 2020, the Waukesha County Airport is characterized as a Transport/Corporate (T/C) Airport that serves small airplanes (piston or turboprop), corporate jets, and small passenger and cargo jets.

In 2008, the Waukesha County Airport recorded 62,403 takeoffs and landings and is currently home for 176 single engine airplanes, 27 multiengine airplanes, 17 jet airplanes, 3 helicopter, and 1 glider airplane.

The airport is also home to three different aviation organizations. The Waukesha Aviation Club, one of the oldest organizations in the state of Wisconsin, provides information and tours throughout the year to area residents and visitors. Second is the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), a nonprofit, support branch of the U.S. Air Force.

Volunteers in this organization assist with emergencies, aerospace education, and a Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program. Thirdly, the Wisconsin Wing of the Commemorative Air Force is also housed at the Waukesha County Airport. This section of the airport is part of the national organization that strives to keep the memories of past military aviators alive for future generations.



Airport amenities

In addition, the airport has an Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) that is operated between 6 am and 9 pm, 365 days a year.

	Runway 10/28	Runway 18/36
Length	5,850 feet	3,599 feet
Width	100 feet	75 feet
Runway Surface	Grooved Concrete	Asphalt
Runway Status	Primary	Secondary
Runway Lighting	High Intensity Runway Lights (HIRL)	Medium Intensity Runway Lights (MIRL)
Approach Indicators	Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI)	Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI)
	Runway End Identifier Lights (REIL)	Runway End Identifier Lights (REIL)
	Very High Frequency Omni-directional Range (VOR)	Very High Frequency Omni-directional Range (VOR)
	Runway 10: Medium Intensity Approach Lighting System with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (MALSR); Instrument Landing System (ILS)	
	Runway 28: Area Navigation Approach (RNAV) GPS	
Frequencies	Automated Terminal Information System (ATIS): 118.875; Ground Control: 121.6; Control Tower: 123.7	Automated Terminal Information System (ATIS): 118.875; Ground Control: 121.6; Control Tower: 123.7

The Economic Impact of Waukesha County Airport/Crites Field



Introduction

A study of the contribution of Waukesha County Airport/Crites Field to the local and state economy was recently completed by a group of seniors from the local University with help from the University's economics department.

The economic impact of the Waukesha County Airport is a combination of economic output (sales), employment, and wage income that can be attributed directly and indirectly to the use of the airport. The airport also generates other revenue for the local and state economies in the services they provide for users of the Waukesha County Airport.

This economic impact measures the importance of Waukesha County Airport as a business in terms of the employment that it supports and the goods and services it consumes.

The results of the study indicate that Waukesha County Airport provided nearly \$81 million in economic output, supported 992 jobs and contributed \$24.2 million in wage income to the local (Waukesha County) economy in 2008-09. The methodology incorporated to estimate the contribution of Waukesha County Airport to the local and state economy uses the same format as the previous economic impact analysis conducted in 2000.

Data for the 2008-2009 report was collected from the following sources:

- Airport activity and business survey data obtained from airport management and many different companies that use the airport to conduct their business including: Flight For Life, Stein's Aircraft Services, LLC., Midwest Air Traffic Control, Spring City Aviation, and many others.
- Data collected from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for information regarding employment, wages, and sales.
- Regional Economic Multipliers taken from the last Economic Impact Analysis will allow the comparison of the two reports based on the same multiplier effects.

The regional multipliers pulled from the previous report are 1.39 (sales), 1.59 (employment), and 1.39 (wages) for the Air Transportation sector. Multipliers for the Retail/Hotel/Restaurant sector are 1.44 (sales), 1.2 (employment), and 1.4 (wages).

The economic role of Waukesha County Airport/Crites Field is comprised of three types of impacts: Direct, Indirect (Visitor Spending) and Induced (Multiplier effects). Each of these impacts has an effect on economic output, wage income, and employment in the Waukesha County area.

Direct Impact

The Waukesha County Airport's direct impact has a direct effect on local sales, payroll, and jobs within Waukesha County. This impact includes the control tower, management and operation of the airport, and any business-related activity based at the airport including pilot training, aircraft maintenance, storage, rental, charter and sales activities.



In 2008-09 the Waukesha County Airport had a direct impact of over \$42 million in sales, over \$10 million in wage income, and supported 281 jobs. In comparison to the 2002 study this is an improvement over 201 jobs, \$6.8 million in wage income and \$34.2 million in sales.

Indirect Impact

The indirect impact of the Waukesha County Airport assesses the amount of money visitors using the airport bring into the county. These visitors spend money on food, lodging and shopping (including gas) in the county.

The \$15.6 million of additional spending by visitors in the county at retailers and restaurants supported wages of over \$6.7 million and 463 jobs within the county. These numbers were a significant improvement over the previous reports findings.

Induced Impact

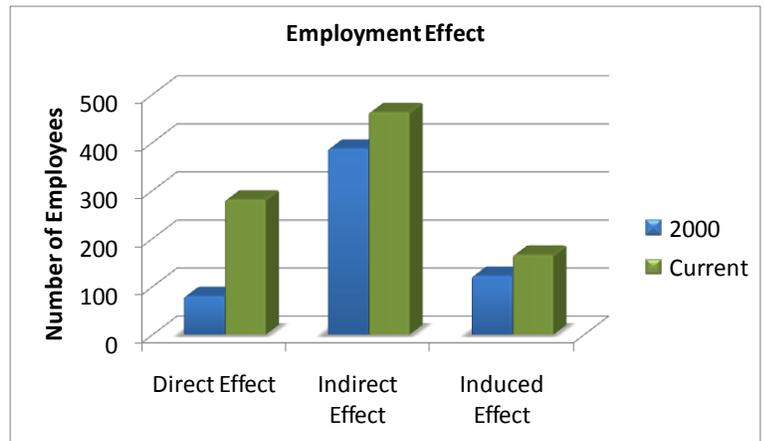
The induced impact of the airport, or the multiplier effect, represents the trickledown effect that the airport has on the local economy. Activities that fall under induced impacts are suppliers that serve businesses at the airport with office supplies, water, electricity etc, and suppliers serving the businesses that cater to visitors of the airport including food for sale, towels at hotels, etc. The induced impacts also include the re-spending of airport workers' income on food, clothing etc throughout the community.

Our report includes the exact same multipliers as the report from 2000. These multipliers allow the reports to be compared side by side in order to see how the Economic Impact of the airport has improved since 2000.

The Induced Impact of Waukesha County Airport is 166 jobs, over \$3.9 million in wage income, and over \$16.6 million in sales.

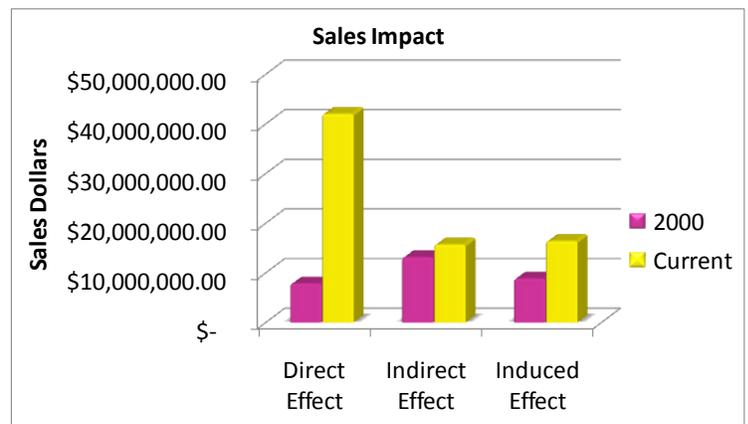
Employment

Direct: 281 jobs
 Indirect: 462 jobs
 Induced: 166 jobs
 Total Employment: 909 jobs



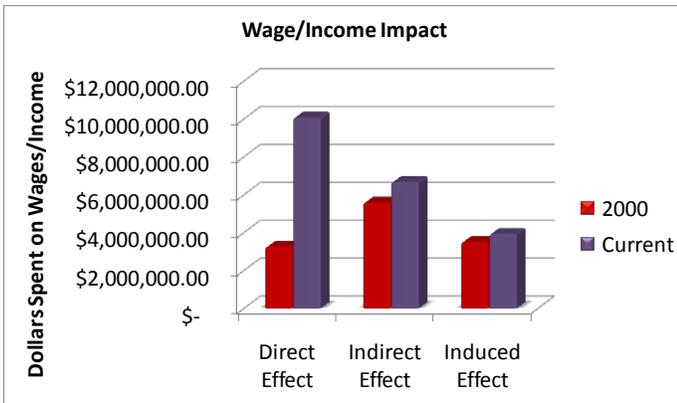
Sales

Direct: \$42.0 million
 Indirect: \$15.7 million
 Induced: \$16.4 million
 Total Sales: \$74.1 million



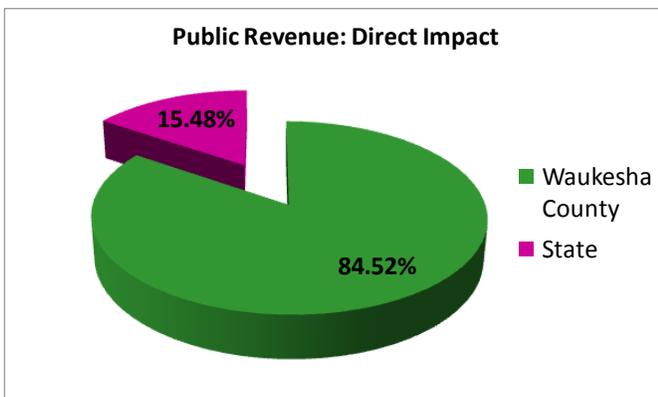
Wage Income

Direct: \$10.1 million
 Indirect: \$6.7 million
 Induced: \$3.9 million
 Total Wage Income: \$20.7 million



Other Financial Benefits of the Airport

This study also collected information on both the State and Local levels of revenues brought in by Waukesha County Airport. In 2008, Waukesha County Airport generated over \$943,000 for Waukesha County and over \$172,000 for the State of Wisconsin for a total benefit of \$1,115,000.



Local benefits for the County include land leases, hangar rent, office rentals, tie down space rentals, airport leases, and fuel flowage fees. Revenues for the State include fuel taxes and aircraft registration fees.

Local and State Impact

The airport also generated additional state sales of \$6.9 million, \$3.6 million in payroll to the state economy, and 83 additional jobs. These additional impacts are added into the direct, indirect, and induced impacts of the airport to develop the final economic impact of the Waukesha County Airport on the community.

Summary of Findings

The Waukesha County Airport has a very large impact on both the local and state economies. When the additional revenue is combined with the direct, indirect, and induced impact the Waukesha County Airport has an impact of over \$80 million in sales, over \$24 million in wages, and 992 jobs. During this economic downturn the Waukesha County Airport is a valuable asset to the community and plays a crucial role in the economy both in Waukesha County and throughout the State of Wisconsin.

ⁱ Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Bureau of Economic Planning and Development.

ⁱⁱ U.S. Census Bureau. "Population Finder". http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/SAFFPopulation?_event=Search&_name=Waukesha+County&_state=&_county=Waukesha+County&_cityTown=Waukesha+County&_zip=&_sse=on&_lang=en&pctxt=fph.

ⁱⁱⁱ U.S. Census Bureau. "State & County QuickFacts". <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/55/55133.html>.