

# **NORTH CAROLINA**

## THE STATE OF AVIATION

What Aviation Means To Our Economy





"North Carolina's aviation system continues driving the economy by connecting people, companies and communities to markets and destinations worldwide."

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



Photo: Construction crews work on Concord-Padgett Regional Airport's \$5.4 million aircraft taxiway project in 2021. On the cover: Piedmont Triad International Airport in Greensboro, N.C. supports extensive business development.

# **North Carolina: The State of Aviation**

For 120 years, North Carolina has led the way in aviation. In 2021, the first-in-flight state led the way out of the pandemic, carrying more cargo than ever before, opening new markets to passenger service, enhancing airport facilities, hosting the world's fifth-busiest airport and welcoming new airlines and aerospace companies that now call North Carolina home.

These are among findings from the NCDOT Division of Aviation's biennial economic impact study of the state's public airport system and the assets North Carolina offers aviation-supported companies.

**Our analysis found North Carolina's 72 public airports** annually contribute more than \$72 billion in economic impact - 11% of the state's gross domestic product, its total output of goods and services. The airports also support 330,000 jobs that generate \$23 billion in personal income and \$3.7 billion in state and local tax revenues.

North Carolina's aviation system continues driving the economy by connecting people, companies and communities to markets and destinations worldwide.



**ECONOMIC IMPACT** 





**\$**11 \$3.7 BILLION **IN TAX REVENUE** 

# **Public airports move people** and cargo

#### **North Carolina Public Airports**



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

#### **AIRPORT TAKEOFFS AND LANDINGS JAN. 2019-JULY 2022**



While commercial service operations plummeted during 2020, general aviation operations mostly held steady due to private aircraft traffic.

North Carolina's resilient system of 10 commercial service and 62 general aviation airports transported nearly 60 million business and leisure travelers in 2021 and moved 1.3 million tons of high-value, time-sensitive cargo, from medical supplies to advanced manufacturing components.

The N.C. Department of Transportation Division of Aviation, with funding from the State of North Carolina and Federal Aviation Administration, supports local investment in airport development and operations with grants, longrange 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 and creates a strong aviation economy.

## Passenger service rebounds

Passenger service at North Carolina's commercial service airports bounced back in 2021 to 56.9 million - 80% of the state's banner traffic count in pre-pandemic 2019 as pandemic-weary leisure travelers and remote workers snatched up low-fare flights in search of sun-drenched southern and Caribbean destinations.

Asheville Regional Airport was the state's third busiest in 2021 due to its early rebound. The airport leveraged its assets by stepping up business development efforts with airlines to grow air service among leisure travelers and worked with travel and tourism partners to spread the message that "people want to visit Asheville."

Passenger traffic at Albert J. Ellis Airport in Jacksonville posted a strong recovery in 2021 due in part to military personnel who continued to fly.

Charlotte Douglas International Airport's southeast American Airlines hub hosted increased domestic throughtraffic, becoming the fifth busiest airport in the world for air traffic and the most recovered of any U.S. major airline hub compared to 2019.

Seventeen airlines now serve North Carolina, connecting travelers with 43 U.S. states and territories and 25 foreign countries.

"While many U.S. markets contracted, our airport saw airlines expand routes and welcomed one new airline in 2021."

> Lew Bleiweis, President and CEO, Asheville Regional Airport

#### N.C. AIRPORT PASSENGER TRAFFIC JAN. 2020-JUNE 2022



Passenger service cratered when the pandemic hit but began rebounding in spring 2021.

### **N.C. AIRLINES** FAST FACTS

- 17 Commercial Airlines
- ▶ **184** Airline Destinations
- 56.9 million Passengers (2021)
- 15,009 Airline Jobs (2021)
- \$78,700 Average Salaries (2021)





A worker loads cargo onto an aircraft at Rocky Mount-Wilson Regional Airport.

More cargo flowed through North Carolina airports in 2021 than ever before -1.3 million tons, up 22% from 2019 — driven by a major increase in durable good and online purchases by homebound consumers.

Air cargo supports virtually every industry sector, from agriculture to automotive. It is ideally suited for high-value, time-sensitive and perishable items and pays average wages of \$51,324.

**CARGO VALUE PER POUND BY SHIPPING MODE** \$49.82/lb. \$0.56/lb. \$0.21/lb. \$0.17/lb. High-value \$0.15/lb. goods move by air. **PIPELINE TRUCK AIR** RAIL **WATER** 

While most cargo moves through major airport hubs, with 13 major cargo companies operating in the state, general aviation airports increasingly find opportunities to support industries in their communities when they develop supportive infrastructure.

Rocky Mount-Wilson Regional Airport has seen airport operations climb 1,000% and fuel sales rise 500% in the past five years since extending and strengthening its runway to handle major cargo aircraft. The airport bought special loading equipment, trained operators and made the airport available 24x7 to cargo companies. Those companies responded, now keeping a steady stream of cargo from regional companies flowing through the airport.

"All of the carriers here, large and small, get business as a result of Rocky Mount-Wilson Regional Airport. We move tons of freight in and out for manufacturers and local businesses, which keeps assembly lines going and associates working to meet customer deadlines."

> Sam Hunter, Solutions Specialist Old Dominion Freight Line

# Airport enterprises create jobs and tax revenues



Pandemic-inspired contactless GetREEF Virtual Food Hall at Raleigh-Durham International Airport lets travelers order meals via kiosk or QR code and pick them up from a code-controlled locker.

Airport innovation led the way through the pandemic at the state's commercial service airports when passenger traffic plummeted. Airports expanded no-touch services, social distancing and air filtration to help travelers feel safe and confident flying.

Raleigh-Durham International Airport tapped the region's extensive university and health care industry expertise to recommend strategies and technologies for keeping both staff and travelers well.

Many airports took the opportunity to accelerate critical infrastructure projects and, when passenger traffic picked up, launched new services to meet demands and recover lost revenues.



"Our new virtual food hall achieves two of RDU's top goals, giving guests a wide range of dining options and leveraging cutting-edge technology to improve their experience at the airport."

> Mike Landguth, President and CEO, Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority

### N.C. AIRPORT ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS

- ▶ 10 rental car companies
- ▶ **\$74 million** rental car tax revenues (SFY 2020)
- ▶ **4,079** based aircraft
- **\$5.6 million** based aircraft tax revenues (2021)
- **523 million** gallons aviation fuel sold (SFY 2020)
- ▶ \$10.7 million aviation fuel tax revenues (SFY 2022)

# **Airports anchor aerospace** manufacturing

Global professional services firm PwC ranked North Carolina sixth in aerospace manufacturing attractiveness in 2021 based on the strength of the state's industry and economy.

Boeing, Cessna GE Aerospace, Honda Aero, Honda Aircraft Co., Lockheed Martin, Pratt & Whitney and Spirit AeroSystems are among more than 200 aerospace companies and 400 suppliers and vendors that call North Carolina home.

Our vibrant aerospace cluster leverages the state's multimodal infrastructure - 80,000 miles of state

highways, the second-largest state-maintained road network in the country, nearly 3,000 miles of freight railroads, two major water ports and the inland port in Charlotte - to connect to major East Coast and foreign supply chain routes and markets.

North Carolina's aerospace sector employs 5,600 people. While sector employment declined 20% from 2019-2021 due to pandemic pressures, it grew at 13 times the national average from 2012 to 2021.



"Having a site ready to meet Boom Supersonic's aggressive timetable clearly influenced their decision to locate their aircraft manufacturing plant here. Significant funding from the state legislature has allowed us to prepare hundreds of acres so we can meet the expansion needs of companies like Boom."

Honda Aircraft Company manufactures HondaJet aircraft at its production plant at Piedmont Triad International Airport.

Kevin Baker, Executive Director, Piedmont Triad International Airport

### **N.C. AEROSPACE** FAST FACTS

- **200+** N.C. aerospace companies
- 400+ N.C. aerospace supply chain companies
- **5,600** jobs in 2021



# **Aircraft maintenance sector** keeps aviation in the air



An aircraft propeller undergoes maintenance at the U.S. Coast Guard Aviation Logistics Center at Elizabeth City Regional Airport.

The aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul, or MRO, industry keeps aviation in the air and contributes more than 8,000 jobs to the state's economy.

Airports that provide supportive infrastructure can capitalize on this vibrant industry, and many do. North Carolina airports welcomed significant new MRO investment in the past two years.

Collins Aerospace, a unit of Raytheon Technologies Corp., completed a \$30 million expansion of its commercial and military aircraft systems MRO facility in Monroe in 2021. The expansion increased the site's footprint more than 25 percent, including a new two-story office building, more shop floor space and an enlarged loading dock.

Fleet Readiness Center East opened a satellite office at the North Carolina Global TransPark in 2021 to service Air Force UH-1 "Huey" helicopters. The unit, based at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, is the state's largest MRO and technical services provider.

Davidson County Airport welcomed Sky Aircraft Maintenance, a full-service aircraft maintenance operation that services jet engines and overhauls aircraft interiors, in 2021. And Avwatch, part of Technology Service Corporation (TSC), opened a new base of operations for its contract flights and a commercial aircraft maintenance facility at Michael J. Smith Field in Beaufort in 2022.

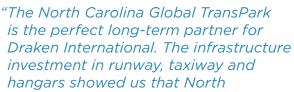
### N.C. MRO FAST FACTS

- ▶ 174 related companies
- **8,000** jobs
- **\$68,120** average wages
- 6th highest U.S. state for MRO jobs

# Military-airport-business combo boosts local economies



Draken International helps train pilots at nearby military bases from its facility at the North Carolina Global TransPark in Kinston.



Carolina and Kinston are serious about growing their aviation industry."

Synergies among North Carolina's eight military

Bill Tart, Chief Operating Officer, Draken International

### **N.C. MILITARY AVIATION** FAST FACTS

- 8 military bases
- **145,000** employees
- **18,000** trained veterans exit service annually



of the world's largest commercial fleet of private tactical aircraft, serve the state's military sector with products and services. Draken helps prepare pilots at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point by acting as the enemy force during training missions and war games, operating from its new facility at the North Carolina Global TransPark in Kinston.

installations, public airports and the companies that serve

Military aviators use public airports to conduct training operations, refuel and receive maintenance and repair services, which drive local business activity. The U.S. Air Force's 235th Air Traffic Control Squadron provides air traffic control services for all civilian and military aircraft at the Stanly County Airport in New London and plays a major role in emergency response when disasters strike.

Military personnel fly frequently in and out of the state's commercial service airports, which boosted passenger traffic during the pandemic slow down.

And importantly, more than 18,000 skilled civilians and veterans leave the military each year, providing experienced talent for the state's aviation workforce.



#### **KEY MILITARY AVIATION LOCATIONS**

- Pope Field at Fort Bragg | Fayetteville
- Seymour Johnson Air Force Base | Goldsboro
- Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point | Havelock
- Marine Corps Air Station New River | Jacksonville
- 5 Elizabeth City Coast Guard Air Station

#### **N.C. NATIONAL GUARD**

- 145<sup>TH</sup> Airlift Wing | Charlotte Douglas and Stanly County
- 449<sup>™</sup> Theater Aviation Brigade | Raleigh-Durham County
- 449<sup>TH</sup> Theater Aviation Brigade | Rowan County

# **Unmanned aviation** soars beyond



UPS Flight Forward delivers time-limited medicines, COVID vaccines and lab specimens by drone to patients across Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist's campus in Winston-Salem.

Uncrewed aircraft systems, (UAS, or drones) offer the potential to transform how we live and work but require a complex system of infrastructure and regulation to do so. North Carolina, at the forefront of developing such a system since 2014, continues to achieve significant advances in drone use for business and government purposes.

In Winston-Salem, for instance, UPS Flight Forward uses drones to rapidly deliver life-saving medicines across Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist's campus. In Kannapolis, Zipline uses drones to drop medical packages on up to 26-mile round trips from its hub. In Durham, Fayetteville, Holly Springs and Raeford, Flytrex and Causey Aviation deliver fast food and retail items to community parks and residential backyards.

They are among 17 leading-edge companies working with NCDOT and the Federal Aviation Administration through FAA's BEYOND program to usher in aviation's new frontier of advanced air mobility with its promise of safe, efficient, affordable and environmentally sustainable air transportation.

North Carolina's leadership in launching this new industry is already attracting new companies and jobs to the state. The state counts more than 240 UAS companies, with many others using drones to enhance their operations and offer new lines of business.

#### N.C. BEYOND PARTNERS

Aerial Vantage

AeroX

ANRA **Technologies** 

Atrium Health Wake Forest

**Baptist** 

Causey Aviation **Unmanned** 

Climavision

**Flytrex** 

Matternet

Novant Health

Skydio

Spirent

Spright

**UPS** Flight

Forward

WakeMed

Xelevate

Xwing

**Zipline** 

International

# Workforce programs develop talent pipeline

### **N.C. AVIATION EDUCATION** FAST FACTS

- 20,500 STEM post-secondary graduates annually
- 4 universities with bachelor's degrees or above in aviationrelated fields
- 7 community colleges and 1 private training college offering associate degrees, diplomas and certificates
- **28** community colleges with aviation workforce content



A middle school student learns to fly a drone at a Division of Aviationsupported summer youth camp at Fayetteville Regional Airport.



"Our Aviation Career Education Academy allowed us to open up the world of aviation to the next generation of talent. Based on their feedback, I know we've sparked interest."

> **Deontae Watson**, A.A.E., Deputy Airport Director Fayetteville Regional Airport

Talent fuels North Carolina's aerospace sector. A wealth of education and training programs inspire and prepare them for careers of today and tomorrow.

A new NCDOT Division of Aviation grant program funds summer Aviation Career Education (ACE) academies for elementary, middle and high school students at airports in North Carolina to inspire the next generation of talent to pursue aviation careers.

The Division's 12-course Airport Leadership and Management Program and North Carolina Airport Professional credential programs teaches airport managers and staff best practices for improving the financial and operational management of their airports.

North Carolina's higher education institutions continue to expand their aviation education offerings. Forsyth Technical Community College's new \$16 million, stateof-the-art Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab at Smith Reynolds Airport in Winston-Salem, opened in 2021, trains aviation technicians and mechanics.

University of Mount Olive launched bachelor's programs in aviation and business management in 2021 with options for manned and unmanned pilot training and certification. Elizabeth City State University launched a new online format for its bachelor's program in aviation science in 2022, with pilot training provided by Piedmont Flight Training in Winston-Salem.

### **North Carolina Aviation Higher Education Program**

UNIVERSITY	UNIVERSITY PROGRAM	
DUKE UNIVERSITY	AEROSPACE ENGINEERING	5
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY	AEROSPACE ENGINEERING	403
ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY	AVIATION SCIENCE	56
UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT OLIVE	AVIATION AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	6

Source: Higher education institutions. Enrollment as of Fall 2021.

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CRAVEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY  55  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  4  EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  JUAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  11  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  6  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  14  GASTON COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  14  GASTON COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  7  AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY  22  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL REPAIRS*  8  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  199  GUILFORD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  23  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  213  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  104  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  183  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  22  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  7	COLLEGE OF THE REBEMAREE	AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY	23
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EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  11  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  6  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  14  GASTON COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  7  AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY  22  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL REPAIRS*  8  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  199  GUILFORD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  213  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY  214  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  215  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  216  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  217  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  104  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  183  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  7	CRAVEN COMMONITY COLLEGE	AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY	55
FAYETTEVILLE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 6  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 14  GASTON COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 7  AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY 22  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL REPAIRS* 8  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING* 199  GUILFORD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION BECTRONICS (AVIONICS) TECHNOLOGY 25  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 213  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY 213  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY 32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY* 43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 7		UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*	4
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AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL REPAIRS*  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  AVIATION ELECTRONICS (AVIONICS) TECHNOLOGY  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  104  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  TROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SYMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  TSURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  7	PATEITEVILLE TECHNICAL COMMONITY COLLEGE	UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*	14
AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL REPAIRS*  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  199  GUILFORD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION ELECTRONICS (AVIONICS) TECHNOLOGY  25  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  124  AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY  213  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  104  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  7	GASTON COLLEGE	UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*	7
AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING* 199  AVIATION ELECTRONICS (AVIONICS) TECHNOLOGY 25  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 124  AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY 213  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY* 104  LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY* 43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 7		AEROSPACE MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY	22
AVIATION ELECTRONICS (AVIONICS) TECHNOLOGY  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  TOMAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SYMALL UNMANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  TOMAN CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  AVIATION MANAGEMENT		AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL REPAIRS*	8
AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 124 AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY 213 COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY* 104  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING* 183 AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY* 43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 7		AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*	199
AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING* AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  7	GUILFORD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE	AVIATION ELECTRONICS (AVIONICS) TECHNOLOGY	25
COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING* AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  TO SUMMUNITY COLLEGE  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY* 43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 7		AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY	124
AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TRAINING*  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*  17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY  23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*  7		AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY	213
AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 32  MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 17  ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY* 43  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 7		COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*	104
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ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*  SANDHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY 23  STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 7	LENGIR COMMONITY COLLEGE	AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY	32
SANDHILLS COMMUNTIY COLLEGE       AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY       23         STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE       SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*       1         SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE       SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*       7	MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE	UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*	17
STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 1  SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 7	ROWAN-CABARRUS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	COMPOSITE TECHNOLOGY*	43
SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 7	SANDHILLS COMMUNTIY COLLEGE	AVIATION MANAGEMENT & CAREER PILOT TECHNOLOGY	23
	STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*	11
	SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*	7
VANCE-GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS* 8	VANCE-GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS*	8
WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 55	WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE	UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*	55
WAYNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY 24	WAYNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	AVIATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY	24
WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY* 10	WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE	UAS DRONE INTRO/PUBLIC SAFETY*	10

Source: North Carolina Community College System. and National Center for Education Statistics Enrollment as of Fall 2021 unless otherwise indicated. \*Short workforce training courses. Enrollment for 2021-2022 academic year.

# **Economic impacts of North Carolina airports**



Coastal Carolina Regional Airport in New Bern opened a \$5.8 million aircraft rescue and firefighting facility in 2021.

ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS					
AIRPORT TYPE	JOBS	PERSONAL INCOME	STATE AND LOCAL TAXES	ECONOMIC OUTPUT	
Commercial Service	297,905	\$20,980,160,000	\$3,386,717,000	\$66,105,320,000	
General Aviation	28,385	\$1,887,410,000	\$285,010,000	\$6,184,830,000	
TOTAL	326,290	\$22,867,570,000	\$3,671,727,000	\$72,290,150,000	

COMMERCIAL SERVICE AIRPORT IMPACTS						
AIRP	PORT AND NAME	CITY/TOWN	JOBS	PERSONAL INCOME	STATE AND LOCAL TAXES	ECONOMIC OUTPUT
OAJ	Albert J. Ellis	Jacksonville	3,410	\$228,600,000	\$35,971,000	\$707,470,000
AVL	Asheville Regional	Asheville	10,655	\$727,440,000	\$118,401,000	\$2,275,270,000
CLT	Charlotte Douglas International	Charlotte	151,575	\$9,905,400,000	\$1,819,598,000	\$31,772,940,000
EWN	Coastal Carolina Regional	New Bern	2,465	\$166,310,000	\$26,931,000	\$512,650,000
JQF	Concord-Padgett Regional	Concord	4,430	\$294,160,000	\$48,283,000	\$899,820,000
FAY	Fayetteville Regional	Fayetteville	3,685	\$258,280,000	\$38,579,000	\$812,880,000
GSO	Piedmont Triad International	Greensboro	21,450	\$3,043,040,000	\$284,059,000	\$9,305,950,000
PGV	Pitt-Greenville	Greenville	1,225	\$84,580,000	\$14,203,000	\$266,900,000
RDU	Raleigh-Durham International	Raleigh/Durham	85,460	\$5,449,640,000	\$887,725,000	\$17,012,380,000
ILM	Wilmington International	Wilmington	13,550	\$822,710,000	\$112,967,000	\$2,539,060,000
TOTAL			297,905	\$20,980,160,000	\$3,386,717,000	\$66,105,320,000

#### **Impact Analysis Methodology**

North Carolina State University's Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) analyzed data from 2021, the most recent year complete data is available, primarily provided by North Carolina's 72 public service airports and the Federal Aviation Administration. ITRE used the IMPLAN model to compute economic impact.

The commercial service airport analysis quantified the impacts of leisure and business travelers to North Carolina and business travelers from North Carolina, 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							
	AIRPORT AND NAME	CITY/TOWN	JOBS	PERSONAL INCOME	STATE AND LOCAL TAXES	ECONOMIC OUTPUT		
AFP	Anson County/Jeff Cloud Field	Wadesboro	65	\$4,330,000	\$507,000	\$16,150,000		
GEV	Ashe County	Jefferson	225	\$13,470,000	\$1,395,000	\$36,260,000		
HBI	Asheboro Regional	Asheboro	120	\$8,440,000	\$1,032,000	\$30,230,000		
7A8	Avery County/Morrison Field	Spruce Pine	155	\$8,220,000	\$749,000	\$22,660,000		
HSE	Billy Mitchell	Hatteras	25	\$2,160,000	\$1,505,000	\$6,630,000		
BUY	Burlington Alamance Regional	Burlington	1,020	\$62,640,000	\$8,499,000	\$280,180,000		
SUT	Cape Fear Regional Jetport/Howie Franklin Field Charlotte-Monroe Executive	Oak Island	2,080	\$126,370,000	\$9,575,000	\$378,650,000		
EQY		Monroe	320	\$14,220,000	\$2,655,000	\$35,740,000		
CTZ	Clinton-Sampson County Columbus County Municipal	Clinton Whiteville	25	\$2,340,000	\$324,000 \$32,177,000	\$7,060,000		
CPC	Currituck County Regional	Currituck	655 65	\$35,600,000 \$4,410,000	\$352,000	\$171,370,000 \$14,210,000		
EYF	Curtis L. Brown Jr. Field	Elizabethtown	90	\$4,910,000	\$759,000	\$21,110,000		
MQI	Dare County Regional	Manteo	505	\$34,230,000	\$5,093,000	\$105,290,000		
EXX	Davidson County	Lexington	540	\$30,980,000	\$4,353,000	\$130,100,000		
DPL	Duplin County	Kenansville	310	\$18,440,000	\$6,248,000	\$70,030,000		
ECG	Elizabeth City Regional	Elizabeth City	3,625	\$283,970,000	\$16,932,000	\$524,360,000		
ZEF	Elkin Municipal	Elkin	55	\$3,740,000	\$506,000	\$11,620,000		
FFA	First Flight	Kill Devil Hills	135	\$9,860,000	\$1,387,000	\$30,710,000		
MRN	Foothills Regional	Morganton	100	\$6,690,000	\$1,019,000	\$21,760,000		
AKH	Gastonia Municipal	Gastonia	50	\$3,690,000	\$463,000	\$11,570,000		
IXA	Halifax-Northampton Regional	Roanoke Rapids	135	\$5,690,000	\$1,113,000	\$16,340,000		
HRJ	Harnett Regional Jetport	Erwin	670	\$43,420,000	\$5,979,000	\$146,660,000		
ACZ	Henderson Field	Wallace	60	\$4,180,000	\$464,000	\$13,350,000		
HNZ	Henderson-Oxford	Oxford	60	\$4,870,000	\$723,000	\$15,000,000		
HKY	Hickory Regional	Hickory	310	\$21,340,000	\$3,082,000	\$69,480,000		
7W6	Hyde County	Englehard	5	\$630,000	\$63,000	\$2,120,000		
24A	Jackson County	Sylva	20	\$1,250,000	\$179,000	\$3,810,000		
JNX	Johnston Regional	Smithfield	1,110	\$74,170,000	\$13,596,000	\$209,910,000		
ISO	Kinston Regional Jetport at North Carolina Global TransPark	Kinston	2,465	\$174,320,000	\$33,832,000	\$660,760,000		
MEB	Laurinburg-Maxton	Maxton	640	\$41,420,000	\$10,100,000	\$164,910,000		
IPJ	Lincolnton-Lincoln County Regional	Lincolnton	145	\$7,230,000	\$937,000	\$29,460,000		
LBT	Lumberton Regional	Lumberton	140	\$6,480,000	\$526,000	\$20,450,000		
1A5 MCZ	Martin County	Franklin Williamston	100 50	\$6,530,000 \$2,260,000	\$1,546,000 \$380,000	\$18,540,000 \$6,360,000		
MRH	Michael J. Smith Field	Beaufort	305	\$12,590,000	\$1,895,000	\$35,770,000		
43A	Montgomery County	Star	10	\$960.000	\$133,000	\$3,250,000		
SOP	Moore County	Pinehurst/Southern Pines	590	\$36,350,000	\$4,179,000	\$107,160,000		
MWK	Mount Airy/Surry County	Mount Airy	2,515	\$183,060,000	\$38,966,000	\$739,300,000		
W40	Mount Olive Municipal	Mount Olive	210	\$13,190,000	\$1,741,000	\$39,010,000		
EDE	Northeastern Regional	Edenton	75	\$5,600,000	\$681,000	\$16,920,000		
W95	Ocracoke Island	Ocracoke	20	\$1,440,000	\$191,000	\$4,610,000		
60J	Odell Williamson Municipal	Ocean Isle Beach	65	\$2,450,000	\$285,000	\$6,590,000		
TDF	Raleigh Regional at Person County	Roxboro	245	\$17,290,000	\$2,434,000	\$53,070,000		
PMZ	Plymouth Municipal	Plymouth	65	\$3,020,000	\$200,000	\$10,810,000		
TTA	Raleigh Executive Jetport at Sanford-Lee County	Sanford	430	\$19,010,000	\$3,068,000	\$52,800,000		
RCZ	Richmond County	Rockingham	30	\$2,460,000	\$322,000	\$8,110,000		
SIF	Rockingham County NC Shiloh	Reidsville	405	\$23,560,000	\$3,336,000	\$86,870,000		
RWI	Rocky Mount-Wilson Regional	Rocky Mount	430	\$26,360,000	\$2,730,000	\$76,920,000		
RUQ	Mid-Carolina Regional	Salisbury	715	\$54,080,000	\$6,342,000	\$139,390,000		
FQD	Rutherford County Shelby Claveland County Regional	Rutherfordton	65	\$4,350,000	\$438,000	\$13,010,000		
EHO SCR	Shelby-Cleveland County Regional Siler City Municipal	Shelby Siler City	320 45	\$18,710,000 \$3,340,000	\$5,010,000 \$434,000	\$55,330,000 \$10,750,000		
INT	Smith Reynolds	Winston-Salem	3,160	\$3,340,000	\$22,275,000	\$894,240,000		
Ann	Stanly County	Albemarle	595	\$48,580,000	\$6,432,000	\$132,570,000		
SVH	Statesville Regional	Statesville	675	\$45,370,000	\$7,986,000	\$144,900,000		
ETC	Tarboro-Edgecombe	Tarboro	80	\$5,170,000	\$142,000	\$18,380,000		
LHZ	Triangle North Executive	Louisburg	220	\$10,280,000	\$1,997,000	\$28,030,000		
ASJ	Tri-County	Ahoskie	35	\$1,800,000	\$203,000	\$6,040,000		
ocw	Washington-Warren	Washington	150	\$8,500,000	\$757,000	\$25,640,000		
GWW	Wayne Executive Jetport	Goldsboro	370	\$23,520,000	\$442,000	\$85,300,000		
RHP	Western Carolina Regional	Andrews	290	\$20,070,000	\$2,360,000	\$57,240,000		
UKF	Wilkes County	North Wilkesboro	195	\$10,890,000	\$1,981,000	\$29,980,000		
	TOTAL		28,385	\$1,887,410,000	\$285,010,000	\$6,184,830,000		



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.

#### **Aviation Business Development Services**

Aviation subject matter expertise Business recruiting assistance Connections to people and resources N.C. airport data







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