

Summary

This report demonstrates the importance of Rhode Island's commercial service and general aviation airports to the regional, state and local economies. The airports provide critical transport services to business and tourism. In doing so, the airports are in themselves an important industry that generate jobs, earnings and economic activity. Beyond the job and dollar impacts the airports also contribute quality of life benefits throughout the state and across the region.

- ✈ Commercial and general aviation airports in Rhode Island support an estimated 23,318 jobs with an annual payroll of \$700 million, and generate \$2.1 billion in economic activity.
- ✈ Of the 23,318 total jobs, 61percent (14,167) are in Rhode Island and 5.5 percent (1,277) are in the City of Warwick.
- ✈ Since 1998, total jobs attributable to commercial and general aviation airport activity from the Rhode Island aviation system grew 30 percent, annual payroll grew 88 percent, and total annual economic output grew 83 percent.
- ✈ The City of Warwick currently receives \$11.5 million in airport-related taxes and other revenues from T.F. Green related aviation activity.
- ✈ A first class airport system is essential to Rhode Island. This study found that, a strategic program to invest in, maintain, and grow commercial and general aviation airports is critical to Rhode Island's economic future.

Rhode Island

Airport Economic Impact Study Summary 2006



RHODE ISLAND AIRPORTS GENERATE \$2.1 BILLION IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

A strong relationship exists between Rhode Island's economy and aviation. In today's global market place, the state's system of commercial service and general aviation airports is essential. Rhode Island's airport system facilitates economic growth and diversification.

In addition to supporting the state's economy, Rhode Island's airports are themselves economic generators. The airport system provides essential benefits to the residents, businesses and visitors, who also rely on the airport system

for health, welfare, and safety needs. Further, Rhode Island's airports are home to military facilities, which are important to our national security.

Periodically, the Rhode Island Airport Corporation (RIAC) commissions economic impact studies to quantify the impacts of our airports to the New England region, the State of Rhode Island and to the City of Warwick. Following is an overview of the full report.

Total Economic Impact of Rhode Island's Airport System

Year 2005	Tri-State Region	Rhode Island
Annual Economic Activity	\$2,101,891,300	\$1,182,591,300
Jobs/Employment	23,318	14,167

Year 1998	Tri-State Region	Rhode Island
Annual Economic Activity	\$1,146,372,500	\$745,505,200
Jobs/Employment	17,953	11,289



NEARLY \$2 BILLION IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY COMES FROM T.F. GREEN AIRPORT

Year 2005	Tri-State	State of R.I.	City of Warwick
Economic Activity	\$1,961,400,00	\$1,042,100,000	\$167,400,000
Jobs/Employment	21,857	12,706	1277

Year 2001	Tri-State	State of R.I.	City of Warwick
Economic Activity	\$1,329,114,200	\$814,082,100	\$122,800,000
Jobs/Employment	19,632	11,753	1,040

Year 1998	Tri-State	State of R.I.	City of Warwick
Economic Activity	\$1,033,968,000	\$633,100,700	\$60,889,400
Jobs/Employment	16,606	9,942	503

GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORTS CONTRIBUTE \$140 MILLION TO RI ECONOMY

General Aviation	Economic Activity	Jobs
Block Island	\$14,245,700	189
Newport	\$6,019,700	77
North Central	\$9,583,900	100
Quonset	\$102,205,600	994
Westerly	\$8,436,400	101
TOTAL	\$140,491,300	1461

T.F. GREEN AIRPORT GENERATES 1,277 JOBS to the CITY of WARWICK

Economic Impact in the City of Warwick	1998	2001	2005
Economic Activity	\$60,889,400	\$122,800,000	\$167,400,000
Jobs/Employment	503	1,040	1277



T.F. Green Airport is a vital transportation alternative for New Englanders and has become a catalyst for economic growth in Rhode Island. The vast majority (93 percent) of economic impact from the state's six public use airports combined stems from activity at T.F. Green.

Rhode Island's five general aviation airports serve different users and purposes including corporate/business aviation and military. General aviation airports alone generated \$140 million in economic activity and 1,461 jobs in 2005.

The study reviewed regional breakdowns and impacts were measured for T.F. Green Airport's home, the City of Warwick. The study found that 1,277 jobs occur in Warwick, representing 3.2 percent of the city's employment.

In addition, the City of Warwick also received more than \$11.5 million in airport-related taxes and other payments in 2005, including \$7.4 million in real estate and personal property taxes paid. State of Rhode Island taxes from hotel,

off-airport parking and rental car taxes distributed back to Warwick totaled another \$3.6 million. Additionally, RIAC pays the City \$500,000 annually for fire and police support.

As the demand for Rhode Island's airports continues to grow, so will the economic benefits. To continue to serve and support the needs of its travelers, RIAC commenced two critical projects this year. The Terminal Improvement Project aims to improve circulation, streamline operations and offer more concessions to patrons of T.F. Green. The Intermodal Facility will be the closest rail line to a major airport in the country, offering a new consolidated rental car facility, garage and skywalk that connects to the terminal.

One out of five T.F. Green employees are from the City of Warwick