

# BIG SANDY AIRPORT – BIG SANDY

## QUALITATIVE BENEFITS

In addition to the economic benefits described above, Big Sandy Airport provides several services to the local community. The airport is frequently used for recreational flying and corporate aviation activity. Other aviation activities that occur on an as needed basis include forest and rangeland firefighting, emergency medical evacuation, medical shipments and patient transfer, law enforcement operations, and search and rescue operations.

FAA data indicates Exec Air Montana Inc. and Native American Air Service Inc. utilized the airport for general aviation during the past year. While most itinerant aircraft traveled to the airport from within Montana, FAA data also indicates aircraft traveled from as far away as Washington state and Wyoming.



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# BIG SANDY AIRPORT BIG SANDY



**M O N T A N A**  
ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AIRPORTS STUDY

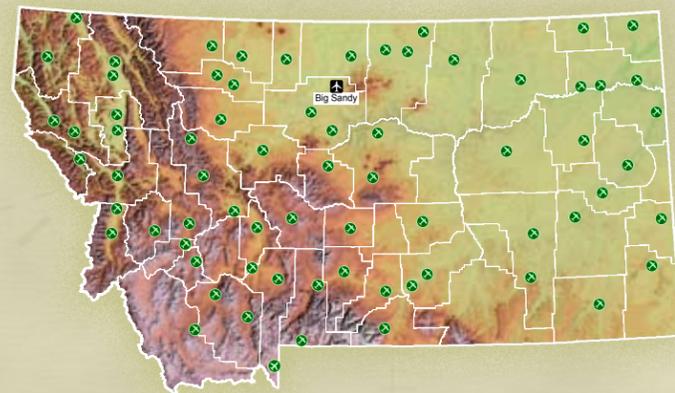
# BIG SANDY AIRPORT – BIG SANDY

## AIRPORT LOCATION

Big Sandy Airport is located one mile south of Big Sandy, Montana, in Chouteau County. In Big Sandy, visitors can enjoy the small town atmosphere of a farming community that is one of the storied towns of the Old West. The history of the area can be explored at the Big Sandy Historical Museum. Wildlife viewing opportunities exist at Lonesome Lake northwest of town, and boating, camping, and fishing activities are found at Judith Landing Recreation Area south of town on the Missouri River. Conveniently located along Highway 87, Big Sandy is a short drive from both Great Falls and Havre, Montana.

Big Sandy has a population of approximately 640. Major employment sectors in the area include agriculture, accommodation and food services, and retail trade.

The 154-acre airport's primary runway, Runway 6/24, measures 3,600 feet in length and 60 feet in width. There are also two turf runways, Runway 18/36 and Runway 13/31. Runway 18/36 measures 1,430 feet in length and 55 feet in width. Runway 13/31 measures 2,975 feet in length and 50 feet in width. The airport, with 17 based aircraft, experiences approximately 5,350 aircraft operations annually.



## STATEWIDE RESULTS

Economic benefits in the Montana Economic Impact of Airports Study are expressed in terms of jobs, payroll, and annual economic activity or output.

### Jobs/Employment

An estimated 18,800 jobs in Montana are in some way supported by the commercial and general aviation airports. These are jobs that are associated with on-airport businesses, tenants, and other activities that are located on commercial or general aviation airports in the State. In addition, spending by visitors arriving in Montana by air helps to support other jobs. When airport improvements are made, additional jobs are supported by the airports over the duration of these projects.

### Payroll/Earnings

The 18,800 jobs in Montana that are linked to the commercial and general aviation airports account for over \$600 million in annual payroll. Airport related payroll is a key component of the economic benefit cycle that starts at the airport. It was this economic cycle that was measured by this study's induced benefits. When those employed by on-airport businesses use their paycheck to

purchase groceries, new clothes, or household items, their spending helps to support other jobs in the community and the payroll associated with these jobs. The initial benefits that start at the airports continue to multiply once they enter the State's economy.

### Annual Economic Activity/Output

To operate Montana's airports, businesses located on the airports and businesses that support visitors who arrive in Montana via the airports all require the purchase of goods and services. These expenditures are most often in addition to those benefits identified in the payroll and earnings category. Benefits in this category are expressed in this study as total annual economic activity or output. Annual economic output related to the airports is typically assumed to be the sum of annual gross sales and average annual capital expenditures, including capital improvement projects.

**JOBS..... 18,800**

**PAYROLL.....\$600 MILLION**

**OUTPUT.....\$1.56 BILLION**

# MONTANA ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AIRPORTS STUDY

## ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

Economic impacts at an airport are measured through employment, payroll, and output (spending). On-airport business and government activities (direct impacts) account for a significant portion of an airport's first-round economic benefits. Additional first-round benefits are also linked to visitors who arrive via the State's system of airports (indirect impacts). Spending by these visitors supports additional employment and associated annual payroll. These first-round impacts create additional spin-off benefits that ripple through the economy. These second-round or induced benefits were measured with Montana-specific IMPLAN multipliers. When combined, first-round and second-round benefits equal the total economic impact associated with each airport.

### First-Round Impact

In 2008, there were no aviation-related tenants located on the airport. All economic impacts generated by the airport are the result of sponsor operation of the airport and visitor related impacts. For 2008, the total combined first-round output stemming from all sponsor activity and general aviation visitors to Big Sandy Airport was approximately \$600. Survey data indicated that approximately 65 visitors used the airport in 2008.

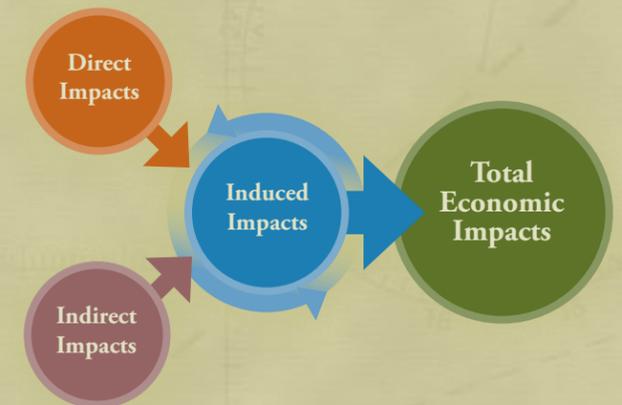
### Second-Round Impact

The first-round impacts associated with on-airport tenants and general aviation visitors also create second-round impacts throughout the State. Second-round impacts are induced impacts calculated using the Montana specific IMPLAN multipliers. The accompanying table presents the 2008 first-round, second-round, and total impacts for output, payroll, and employment as they relate to on-airport tenants and general aviation visitors.

### Total Impact

For 2008, the total output (including first-round and second-round impacts) stemming from all on-airport tenants and general aviation visitors to Big Sandy Airport was approximately \$1,000.

## METHODOLOGY



## AIRPORT SUMMARY TABLE

### FIRST-ROUND ECONOMIC IMPACTS

On-Airport	Visitor Spending
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAA, Other Government</li> <li>• Airport Management</li> <li>• Aircraft maintenance</li> <li>• Vendors</li> <li>• Retail &amp; Restaurant</li> <li>• Car Rental</li> <li>• Parking</li> <li>• Other Ground Transportation</li> <li>• Fixed Based Operators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hotels</li> <li>• Retail &amp; Restaurants</li> <li>• Travel Agents</li> <li>• Convention Centers</li> <li>• Tourist Destinations</li> </ul>
<p><b>0 Jobs</b> <b>\$0 in Payroll</b> <b>\$0 in Economic Output</b></p>	<p><b>0 Jobs</b> <b>\$0 in Payroll</b> <b>\$600 in Economic Output</b></p>

### SECOND-ROUND ECONOMIC IMPACTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppliers of Materials &amp; Services to Airports</li> <li>• Air Dependent Businesses</li> <li>• Visitor Dependent Businesses</li> <li>• Consumer Product and Service Sales</li> </ul>
<p><b>0 Jobs</b> <b>\$0 in Payroll</b> <b>\$400 in Economic Output</b></p>

### TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

<p><b>0 Jobs</b> <b>\$0 in Wages</b> <b>\$1,000 in Economic Activity</b></p>
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