

W22

UPSHUR COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT

Upshur County Regional Airport is a general aviation (GA) facility which provides services to Upshur and Lewis counties. The airport is located at an elevation of 1,635 feet above sea level, providing a nearly fog-free airport with visibility up to 20 miles in all directions. The current facility replaced the original landing strip in 1998, which was located at the base of the hill the airport currently sits on. The original landing strip was used by the nearby West Virginia Wesleyan College as a pilot pre-flight training facility for World War II. Today, Upshur County Regional Airport is used as a regional hub for multiple daily medical flights conducted by its tenant, HealthNet Aeromedical Services. HealthNet houses a 24/7 emergency response team at the airport to quickly transport patients to nearby medical facilities, cutting down transportation time to a quarter of what it would take by ground transport. The airport also serves as a base for operations related to interstate improvement coordination, aerial sawing, and rabies population control methods across the region.



City: Buckhannon
(W22 is approximately 2 miles west)

County: Upshur

Tourism Region: Mountain Lakes

Ownership: Public

Primary Runway 11/29: 4,201' x 75'

AIRPORT CLASSIFICATION

Upshur County Regional Airport is one of 17 GA facilities in West Virginia's aviation system. GA airports serve as integral gateways to communities across the state and accommodate activities such as emergency medical operations, business and recreational operations, mail and cargo transportation, remote access, and many more emergency medical services, civil air patrol, and land surveying. The airport is classified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a Nonprimary – Unclassified airport and is eligible for federal aviation funding through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP).

AIRPORT ACTIVITIES



**Medical Transport/
Evacuation**



Sightseeing



**Corporate/
Business Activity**



Aerial Inspections



**Police/Law
Enforcement**



AVIATION'S ECONOMIC IMPACT

The 2020 West Virginia Aviation Economic Impact Study (WV AEIS) was conducted using 2019 data to quantify the economic contributions of West Virginia's airport system to the state's economy. The 24 publicly owned airports in the state support the transportation of people, goods, and services to, from, and within the Mountain State. This generates quantitative economic value in the form of jobs, payroll, value added, and business revenues, but airports also enhance the quality of life for West Virginians by supporting air ambulance operations, remote access and evacuation, just-in-time deliveries of freight, aerial firefighting, aviation career opportunities, and much more.

Economic benefits are generated by on-airport activities including employment (e.g., airport administration and tenants) and capital improvements (e.g., construction). Economic impacts are also generated off-airport when money is spent by out-of-state visitors traveling to West Virginia via the state's seven commercial service airports and 17 GA airports, and when air cargo transported via the state's airports supports the operation of off-airport businesses.

This initial economic activity, known as direct impacts, generates additional impacts as money flows through the economy. These "multiplier" effects result when a portion of direct business revenues are used to purchase goods and services in West Virginia (called supplier sales) and payroll is re-spent within the state (called income re-spending). In addition, direct impacts for on-airport activities and visitor spending also generate \$75.5 million in tax impacts annually.

Economic Impact Indicators

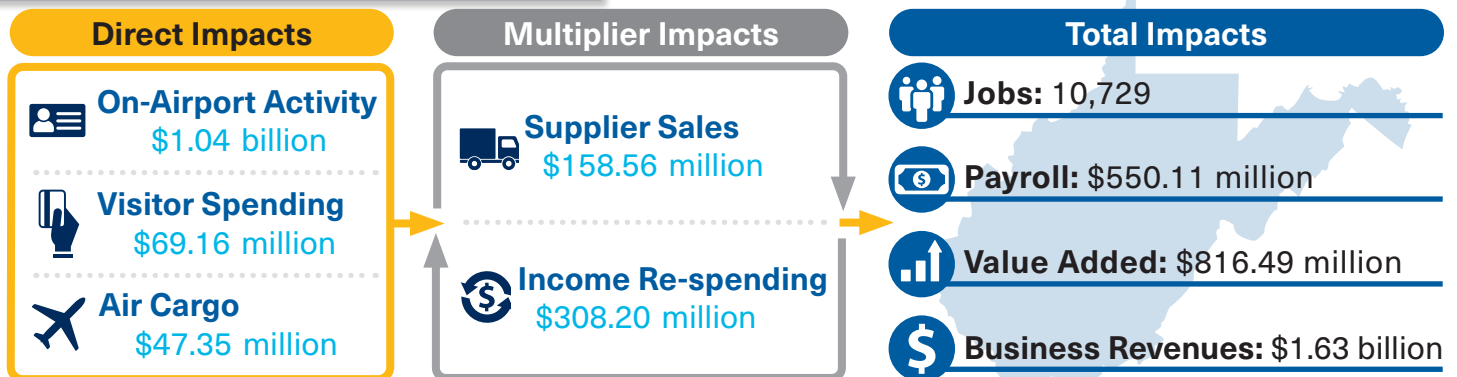
 **Jobs:** The number of employed people

 **Payroll:** The sum of compensation to workers (salaries, wages, and benefits) and proprietor income

 **Value Added:** The value contributed to a product or service provided by a firm or group of firms. Value added is aviation's contribution to West Virginia's Gross State Product (GSP)

 **Business Revenues:** An airport's total aviation-supported output including the sum of business sales and budget expenditures

Statewide Economic Impacts



Upshur County Regional Airport's Economic Impacts

	 Jobs	 Payroll	 Value Added	 Business Revenues
On-Airport Activity	25	\$1,887,000	\$2,512,000	\$5,024,000
Visitor Spending	2	\$52,000	\$83,000	\$173,000
Total Direct Impacts	27	\$1,939,000	\$2,595,000	\$5,198,000
Supplier Sales	8	\$383,000	\$628,000	\$1,305,000
Income Re-spending	12	\$459,000	\$686,000	\$1,509,000
Total Multiplier Impacts	20	\$842,000	\$1,314,000	\$2,815,000
Total	48	\$2,781,000	\$3,908,000	\$8,012,000

Notes: Totals may not add due to rounding. Metrics (jobs, payroll, value added, and business revenues) represent various components of an airport's economic impact and are not additive. Sources: WV AEIS Airport Manager Survey; Airport Tenant Survey; Transient GA Pilot & Passenger Survey, 2020; FAA 5010 Airport Master Record, FAA Terminal Area Forecast, Airline Data, Inc., 2019; Longwoods International, 2018; Calculations by EBP US using IMPLAN V.3 2018, 2021.