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Northeast Florida Regional Airport Contributes over \$1.4 Billion to Statewide Aviation Economic Impact

St. Augustine, FL (April 5, 2019) – The Northeast Florida Regional Airport's total statewide economic impact is estimated to exceed \$1.4 billion. That figure was determined by a recently released 2019 update to the Florida Statewide Aviation Economic Impact Study.

The study, released online this week by the Florida Department of Transportation, indicates that the Northeast Florida Regional Airport has a direct, on-airport, economic impact of \$850,529,000; with an estimated visitor spending impact of \$45,273,000. The study measures on-airport impacts, the impacts of visitor spending and multiplier impacts. With all factors included, the study shows that the total economic impact of the Airport is \$1,472,434,000.

In addition to the total impact, tenants and other aviation related companies, both on the airfield and as determined through the multiplier effect, account for nearly 5,624 jobs and an estimated \$343,082,000 in total labor income within the region.

The statewide economic impact of Florida's 129 public use airports was calculated as \$175 billion. The FDOT study began in October 2016 and was completed in March 2019. The findings were part of a March 2019 reports, prepared as part of the update to the Florida Aviation System Plan (FASP) and incorporates 2017 data. The full study provides the estimated, annual economic impact associated with 20 commercial service airports, 100 public-use general aviation airports, and in addition, 11 military aviation facilities on the economy of the State of Florida.

"Airports play an important role in our economy," stated Suzanne Green, chair of the St. Augustine-St. Johns County Airport Authority, "Airports serve as local employment centers, provide a wide variety of jobs, attract capital investment, and transport tourism and business travelers whose spending is vital to our local and state economy."

"Giving back to the region is at the center of the Airport's mission," continued Edward Wuellner, Executive Director of the Northeast Florida Regional Airport. "We are proud to contribute toward more than a billion dollars in regional economic activity each year. Thanks to the vision of our Authority Board, the work of our tenants, and the entire airport family, our airport will continue to serve as a regional transportation asset within Northeast Florida for decades to come."

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About the St. Augustine – St. Johns County Airport Authority:

The members of the St. Augustine – St. Johns County Airport Authority are elected by the citizens of St. Johns County and serve without remuneration. The Airport Authority is chartered by the Florida Legislature for the purpose of operating and developing the Northeast Florida Regional Airport on behalf of the citizens of St. Johns County. Learn more at: <u>www.flynf.com</u>.

About The Florida Statewide Aviation Economic Impact Study

The Statewide Aviation Economic Impact Study conducted by FDOT began in October 2016 and completed in March 2019. This March 2019 report, prepared as part of the update to the Florida Aviation System Plan (FASP), provides the estimated, annual economic impact associated with 20 commercial service airports, 100 public-use general aviation airports, and in addition, 11 military aviation facilities on the economy of the State of Florida.

This study includes economic impacts of various on-airport and off-airport aviation related activities. Economic benefits in this study are expressed as direct, indirect, and induced (multiplier) impacts. For each of these measures, economic benefits are expressed in terms of total annual economic activity (output), employments, and payroll (earnings). Summary reports of the individual airports depict the role each airport has contributing to the economy of the State of Florida.

Additional resources on the statewide study:

- <u>Florida Department of Transportation Florida Statewide Economic Impact Study</u> (Webpage)
- Florida Statewide Aviation Economic Impact Study, March 2019 Executive Summary (PDF)
- Florida Statewide Aviation Economic Impact Study, March 2019 Technical Report (PDF)
- Report Summary: The Economic Impact of The Northeast Florida Regional Airport (PDF)

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