



# Fairbanks International Airport

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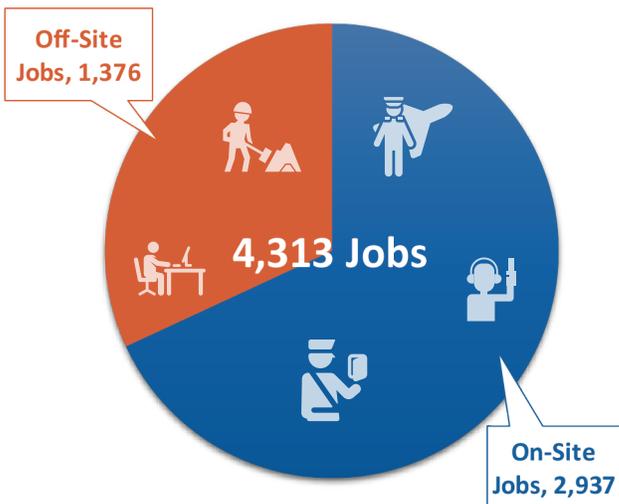
**Fairbanks** International Airport (FAI) is a gateway to northern Alaska, providing critical air service to more than 80 rural communities. As a part of the Alaska International Airport System, it plays a significant role in Alaska's transportation network.

FAI supports a wide array of aviation activities, ranging from recreational flyers to transcontinental Condor flights. FAI is a busy airport for general aviation, with high levels of commercial and private activity. Flights diverted from Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport (ANC) use the airport as a reliever. Fairbanks can also be a destination. For example, passenger flights from Japan contribute to tourism and local industry. Domestic intrastate

flights are an important component of aviation at FAI, and commercial airlines are working to increase FAI's role as an international airport with more flight services to Asia.

## Employment

In 2017, FAI provided nearly **4,300** jobs. There were about **3,000** on-site jobs related leaseholders and airport staff. These positions include airlines, fueling, maintenance, retailers and concessions, ground transportation, state and federal support, and many others. The remaining **1,300** off-site jobs are induced through capital spending of on-site companies and wages of aviation employees. As the major hub for interior and northern Alaska, FAI generates off-site jobs both in the Fairbanks area and throughout rural Alaska.



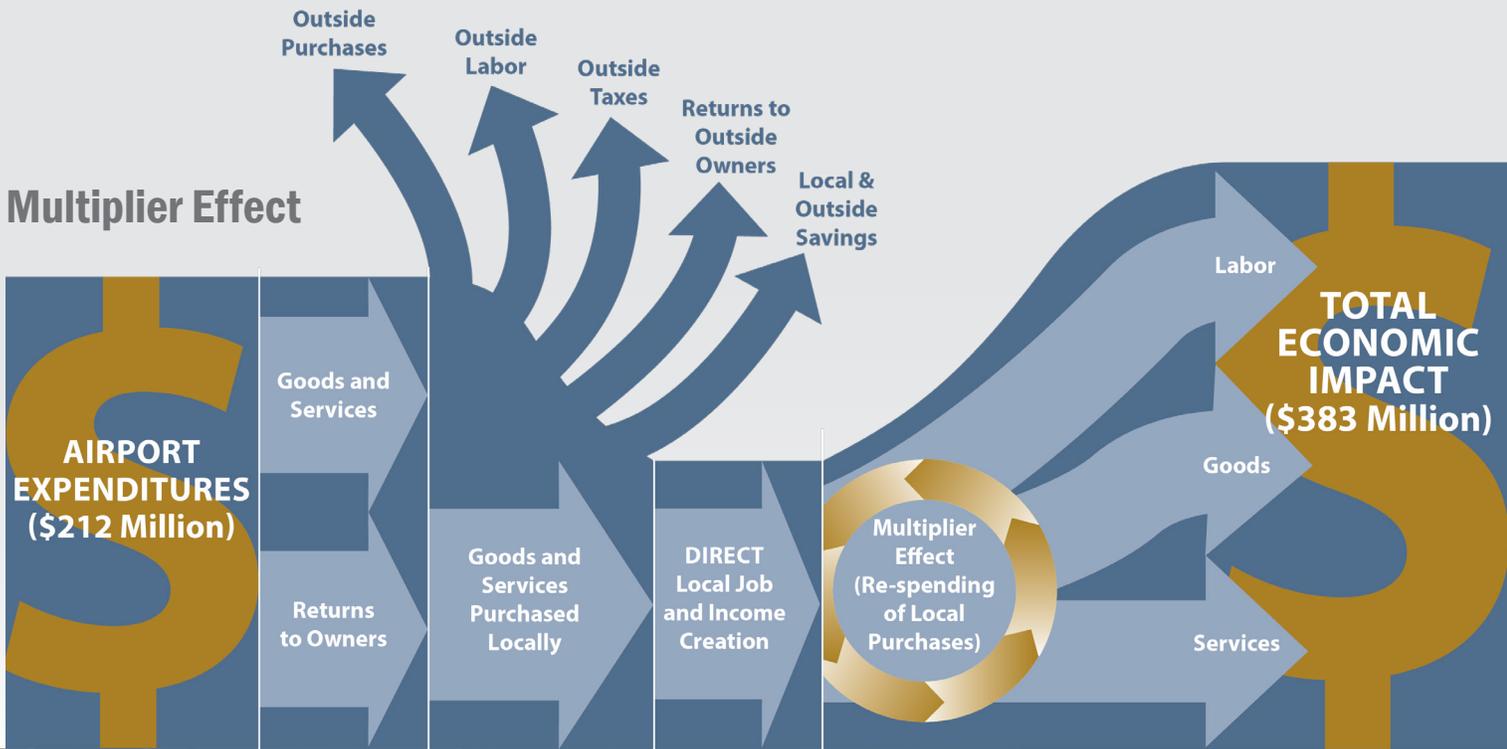
Source: Northern Economics Survey 2018

“Residents rely on air cargo. Food, fuel, medicine, supplies... you name it and it has come on an airplane to our area.”

## FAI's Economic Contributions

In total, FAI contributed **\$383 million** in economic benefit to the community—**\$212 million** in direct spending, and **\$171 million** from multiplier effects, where employee wages spent throughout the economy

generate additional jobs and economic activity. The multiplier effects are an estimate of how many times a dollar is re-spent in, or “ripples through”, a community (or a larger economic region).



## Did You Know?



Total on-site payroll for employees at FAI was **\$212 million**. This represents approximately **11.2 percent** of the total wage earnings in the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Jobs due to the on-site aviation industry at FAI make up about **11.4 percent** of all jobs in the borough.

# Did You Know?



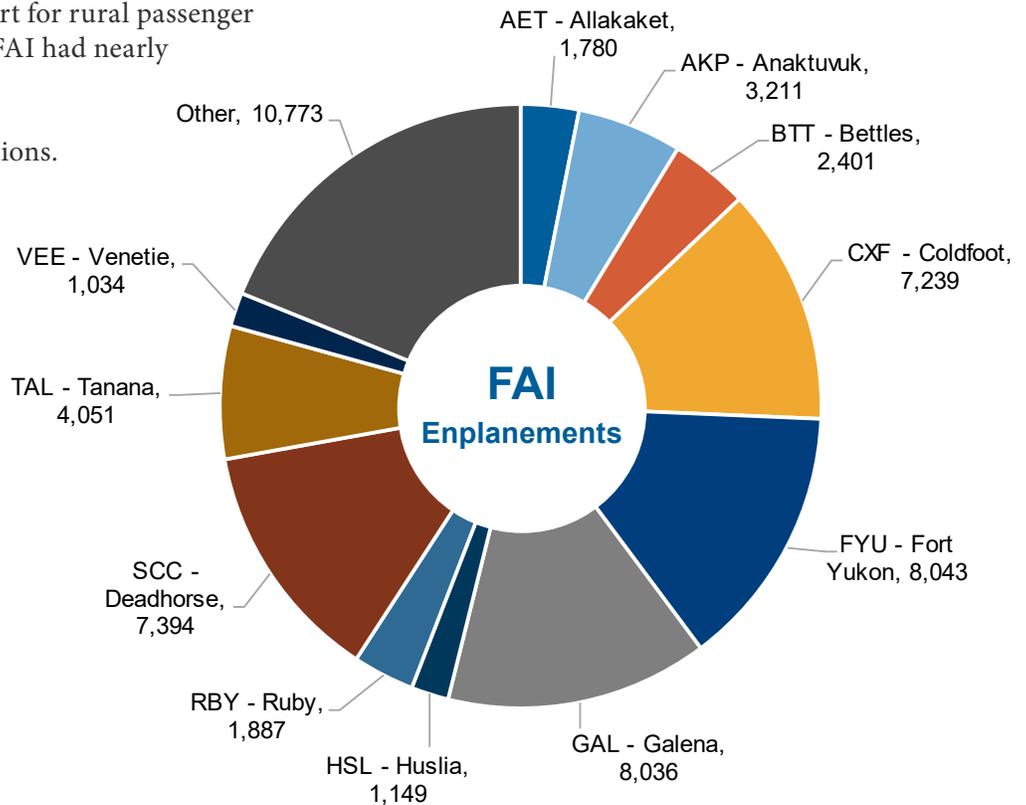
**FAI is the primary diversion point** for ANC in the event of an emergency or natural disaster. The role of FAI ensures that transcontinental flights have a backup landing site in Alaska, even when ANC is unavailable.



## A Hub for Rural Travelers

FAI is also an important airport for rural passenger travel. Excluding Anchorage, FAI had nearly **57,000** enplanements in 2017, heading to over **80** rural communities and remote locations.

Air transportation is an efficient means for moving people and goods into and out of off-road communities in Alaska. The role of airports in rural Alaska is often compared to the role of highways and the road system in the Lower 48.



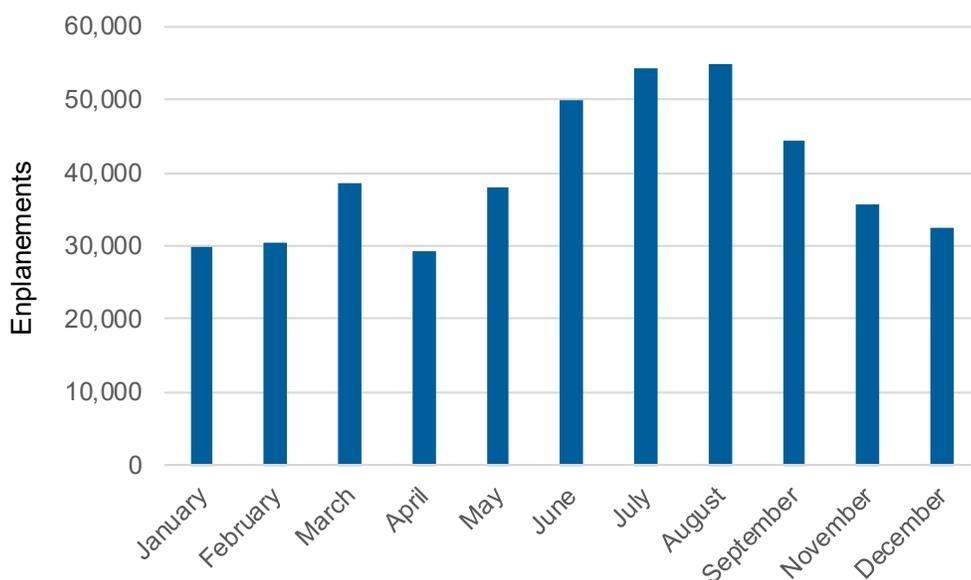
Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics 2018

## FAI: Interior Alaska's Tourism Hub

Fairbanks International Airport plays an important role as a regional hub for tourism. Remote flightseeing, guided hunting and fishing trips, as well as river rafting adventures help to attract visitors to interior Alaska. With commercial service flights to Europe, Asia, and the lower 48 states, FAI is a popular tourist destination. The busiest months for passenger travel at FAI are June, July, and August.

One unique aspect of the Fairbanks tourist industry is a niche market of winter tourism related to aurora borealis activity. During the late winter months when the tourism industry is quiet in most of the state, Fairbanks is supported by a steady flow of Japanese visitors. January, February, and March are the busiest months for visiting Japanese tourists.

### FAI Passenger Enplanements, 2010–2017 Average



Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics 2018

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### Acknowledgements

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