Aviation in California: Fact Sheet (February 2021)

Aviation Facilities

- **214** General Aviation Airports
- **27** Commercial Service Airports
- **62** Special-Use Airports
- **170** Hospital and **189** Corporate, Police, Fire, Agricultural or Private Heliports
- **22** Federal Air Bases / **1** Joint Use Facility
- **144** Automated Weather Observation or Information System Locations

Scheduled Passenger Service

- In CY 2020, Commercial Service airports reported handling 66.6 percent fewer passengers than in CY 2019 (241.4 million), or a total of 82.4 million passengers.
- The Federal Aviation Administration awarded a total of $60 million in federal FY 2020 to 25 of these airports from the Airport Improvement Program Passenger Entitlement Program, based on CY 2018 enplanements.
- California's share of national air passenger enplanements is greater than 8.9 percent (CY 2019).
- CY 2019, 12 of California's Commercial Service airports rank in the top 100 Primary U.S. Airports (U.S. Rank is based on CY 2019 enplanements: LAX-2nd; SFO-7th; SAN-24th; SJC-35th; OAK-39th; SMF-40th; SNA-42nd; BUR-56th; ONT-57th; LGB-76th; PSP-85th; FAT-98th)

Air Cargo

- The top four reporting airports accounted for 88.1 percent of the State's reported landed weight, while each exceeded 1 billion U.S. pounds landed weight.
- Twelve California All Cargo airports were awarded $12.2 million from the FAA AIP Cargo Airport Entitlement Program in federal FY 2020 based on 2018 reported Landed Weight
- In CY 2019, 1 GA and 23 Commercial airports reported handling an estimated 5.1 million U.S. Tons of air cargo traffic.
- In CY 2019, California airports (14) share of all reported Landed Weight (aircraft): 10.1 million U.S. Tons, or 11.1 percent share of U.S. total (U.S. Rank based on 2019 reported landed weight: LAX-5th; ONT-10th; OAK-11th; SFO-31st; SMF-39th; SAN-43rd; MHR-51st; SCK-79th; SJC-94th; SBD-79th; LGB-105th; FAT-119th; RIV-80th; CIC-136th)

Certified Pilots and Registered Aircraft

- General Aviation (GA) operations account for approximately four of every five aircraft operations.
- FAA Registered Aircraft (January 2021): 25,213 (9 percent of the U.S. total)
- FAA Active Certified Pilots (December 2019 estimate): 64,334 (10.3% of the U.S. Certified Pilots; excludes flight instructors-10,001 and remote pilots-16,367)

Aviation's Economic Impact

- Contribution to the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP): $175.7 billion (4.2 percent of the U.S. GDP)
- Contribution to the U.S. employment: 1.1 million jobs (4.8 percent; aviation related jobs)
- California leads the nation in economic output ($ in billions): ["*" indicates 1st in the U.S.] Value of Air Freight Flow ($113.2); Visitor Expenditures* ($89.5); Travel Arrangements* ($2.5); Airport Operations* ($8.4); Airline Operations* ($33.4);
- California ranks in the top five States in the U.S.: Aircraft, Engines, Parts & Avionics Manufacturing ($31.8); R&D ($3.8); & Air Couriers ($4.9) – ($ in billions)
- Impact of FAA Spending in California: $1.6 billion; 10,473 jobs [2nd only to Tennessee]

Aviation's Emergency Preparedness Facilities

- California's 241 public-use airports are potential staging areas for emergency response activities, including Search and Rescue and firefighting agencies, which rely on aircraft to transport personnel, equipment and supplies, and reconnaissance efforts.
- In California, U.S. Forest Service, Fire and Aviation Management coordinates 9 Federal Firefighting Airtanker Bases, 3 Airtanker Reload Bases and 20 Helibases. For more information: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/aviation/
- To provide air support within 20 minutes, Cal Fire supports ground forces with firefighting efforts via 24 air attack and helitack bases. https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/mlhjqhd3/aviation-program-2020-6.pdf

Sources are available upon request from the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

Airport and Airway Trust Fund (AATF) Fact Sheet (April) total (FFY 2020): $17.6 billion to invest in Operations; Facilities and Equipment; Research, Engineering & Development; and Airports.

California Aid to Airports Program (CAAP) Grants

FY 2019/20: $3.57 million

- State AIP Matching Grants (42): $2.1 million
- Annual Credit Grants (147): $1.47 million
- Acquisition and Development Grants (0): $0

FAA AIP Grants Awarded to California

AIP Grant by Service Level	# of Grants	Award Amount
Commercial	38	$167,025,973
Reliever	1	$675,000
General Aviation	52	$56,277,125
Other (CASP)	1	$388,047
Total	92	$224,366,145

California Aviation System Plan (CASP)

The 10-year capital need outlook for California Public Use airports is $6.76 billion – [Commercial Service airports: $5.4B and General Aviation airports: $1.4B] (Source: California Aviation System Plan, Capital Improvement Plan – July 2019)

General Aviation Fuel Sales & Aviation Fuel Excise Tax Revenue Transfers to the State Aeronautics Account

	AvGas[1]	Jet Fuel[2]	Combined Aviation Fuel	Aeronautics Account Revenue3		
	Gallons Sold	Gallons Sold	Gallons Sold			
Fiscal Year	(in millions)	(in millions)	(in millions)	Avgas	Jet Fuel	Annual Total
2000-01	27.9	133.2	**161.1**	$5,030,000	$2,664,000	**$7,694,000**
2001-02	28.8	120.0	**148.8**	$5,200,000	$2,400,000	**$7,600,000**
2002-03	28.1	122.6	**150.7**	$5,100,000	$2,452,000	**$7,552,000**
2003-04	27.3	135.7	**163.0**	$4,922,000	$2,832,000	**$7,754,000**
2004-05	23.6	144.3	**167.9**	$4,858,000	$2,763,000	**$7,622,000**
2005-06	25.8	149.2	**175.0**	$4,408,000	$3,001,000	**$7,409,000**
2006-07	24.7	149.8	**174.5**	$2,006,000	$5,284,000	**$7,290,000**
2007-08	28.9	152.7	**181.6**	$3,831,000	$3,627,000	**$7,458,000**
2008-09	19.2	123.8	**143.0**	$4,457,000	$2,774,000	**$7,232,000**
2009-10	19.6	112.3	**131.9**	$3,459,000	$1,729,000	**$5,188,000**
2010-11	16.9	116.9	**133.8**	$3,174,000	$2,371,000	**$5,545,000**
2011-12	17.3	125.8	**143.1**	$3,114,000	$2,497,000	**$5,611,000**
2012-13	16.3	132.0	**148.3**	$2,871,000	$2,370,000	**$5,241,000**
2013-14	15.9	127.7	**143.6**	$2,944,000	$2,801,000	**$5,745,000**
2014-15	16.5	135.6	**113.5**	$3,009,959	$2,471,821	**$5,481,780**
2015-16	16.3	155.7	**172.0**	$3,030,804	$2,946,769	**$5,977,573**
2016-17	14.9	165.9	**180.8**	$2,697,783	$3,366,306	**$6,064,089**
2017-18	15.5	162.1	**177.6**	$2,765,770	$3,251,043	**$6,016,813**
2018-19	15.1	168.3	**183.4**	$2,314,259	$3,369,346	**$5,683,605**
2019-20	14.9	139.2	**154.0**	$2,916,333	$3,187,492	**$6,103,825**
Fuel Tax Rates:	[1] *$0.18/gallon*	[2] *$0.02/gallon*				

[1&2]Source: California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA)

[3]Source: State Controller's Office transfers to Aeronautics Account per Revenue and Taxation Code Section 8352.3 (a).

Division of Aeronautics
https://dot.ca.gov/programs/aeronautics