92A Chilhowee Gliderport

Aviation Moves Tennessee

Tennessee's aviation system has 76 public-use airports that support a wide range of activities, from commercial airline travel to private aircraft operations. Aviation contributes approximately 9% of Tennessee's gross domestic product (GDP) and generates an estimated $53.8 billion in total economic impact across the state. To better understand how these airports support Tennessee's economy, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Aeronautics Division conducted an updated Aviation Economic Impact Study.

Total Aviation Impact

$53.8B

Aviation contributes

9% of Tennessee's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

About Chilhowee Gliderport

Located near the Town of Benton in Polk County, southeast Tennessee, Chilhowee Gliderport (92A) serves a rural area filled with mountains at the western foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains. The airport is situated among forested ridgelines and valleys that provide favorable natural conditions for soaring, including ridge lifts and thermals.

Chilhowee Gliderport is a privately owned, public-use glider airport featuring a single 2,600-foot runway. The runway is unpaved and designed specifically to support glider and sailplane operations, accommodating the airport's specialized aviation mission and recreational soaring activity.

The sole on-airport tenant is Chilhowee Soaring Association, Inc., which conducts all aviation activity at the gliderport. The association provides glider flight instruction and introductory scenic rides, allowing visitors and students to experience motorless flight over the surrounding mountainous landscape. Instruction is offered by qualified personnel and supports both first-time participants and individuals pursuing formal glider training.

To better understand the geographic reach of Chilhowee Gliderport, the map below shows a selection of flights that operated both into and out of the airport.

Jobs
4

Payroll
$316K

Value Added
$503K

Airport Economic Impacts

Business Revenue
$678K

On Airport Impacts
$678K

Visitor Spending Impacts
<$1,000

sums may not total due to rounding

92A FLIGHT COVERAGE MAP

