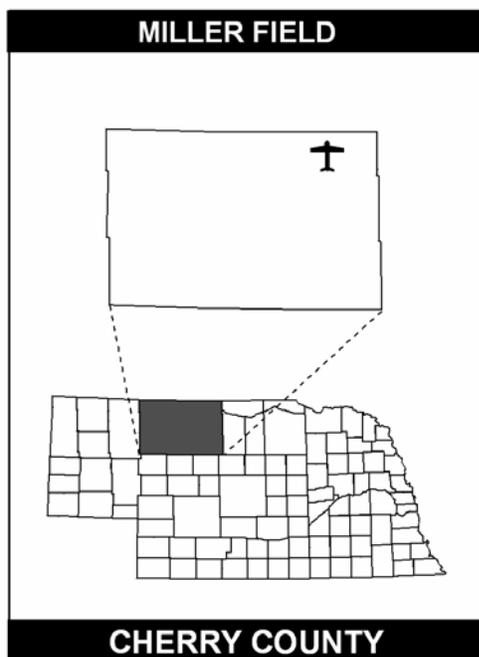


Airport Location

Miller Field is located one mile south of Valentine, Nebraska, in Cherry County. Valentine has a population of 2,862. The 279-acre airport opened in 1937. The primary runway, Runway 14/32, is an asphalt surface measuring 4,406 feet in length and 100 feet in width. Local attractions include the Cherry County Historical Museum, Rocky Ford Camp & Canoe Base, Snake River Falls, Valentine National Wildlife Refuge, Merritt State Recreation Area, Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge, and the Sandhills Museum.

The airport, with 14 based aircraft, experiences approximately 2,434 aircraft operations annually.



Economic Impact

Economic impacts at an airport are measured through employment, payroll, and output (spending). On-airport business and government activities (direct impacts) account for a significant portion of an airport's first round economic benefits. Additional first round benefits are also linked to visitors who arrive via the State's system

of airports (indirect impacts). Spending by these visitors supports additional employment and associated annual payroll. These first round impacts create additional spin-off benefits that ripple through the economy. The secondary or induced benefits were measured with Nebraska-specific IMPLAN multipliers. When combined, first round and secondary benefits equal the total economic impact associated with each airport.

First Round Impact

In 2002, there were three aviation-related tenants on the airport, including airport management, who supported five employees. These tenants' direct or first round employment, payroll, and output impacts were derived from survey data. Direct output from all on-airport aviation-related tenants is estimated at \$493,500 annually. The estimated direct annual payroll of these tenants is \$98,100. Operational data indicated that approximately 559 visitors used the airport. Visitor-related spending supported one additional full-time job for an employee earning over \$18,000 annually. Indirect output from general aviation visitors is estimated at \$30,200.

Secondary Impact

The first round impacts associated with on-airport tenants and general aviation visitors also create secondary impacts throughout the State. Secondary impacts are induced impacts calculated using the Nebraska specific IMPLAN multipliers. The accompanying table presents the 2002 first round, secondary, and total impacts for output, payroll, and employment as they relate to on-airport tenants and general aviation visitors.

Total Impact

For 2002, the total output (including first round and secondary impacts) stemming from all on-airport tenants and general aviation visitors to Miller Field was approximately \$767,000. Total full-time

employment related to airport tenants and general aviation visitors, including all secondary impacts, is estimated at approximately 9.5 full-time equivalent jobs, with a total annual payroll (first round and secondary) of approximately \$176,900 associated with these jobs.

Other Benefits

In addition to the economic benefits described above, Miller Field provides a number of services to the local community. The airport welcomes many recreational flights, as well as corporate aircraft such as those belonging to Alco Stores, Mean Jeans Inc., and State Farm Insurance. The airport sometimes serves as a gateway for visitors to the local area’s attractions, particularly hunters at the county’s various wildlife areas. Express package and freight service is provided daily by a UPS contract carrier. Law enforcement agencies and search and rescue authorities frequently use the field to perform such operations. The airport provides a very important benefit to the town in terms of access to the State’s health care system. The remoteness of the town makes quick medical transportation essential, and the airport accommodates a large number of doctor and medical evacuation flights each year.

A survey of over 100 hospitals in Nebraska gathered data to obtain information relating to how often hospitals use airports in Nebraska to bring specialists from out of the area, as well as how often airports are used for patient transfer. Survey data indicated Cherry County Hospital uses the airport on average 163 times a year to bring doctors and specialists to the hospital to conduct clinics. These doctors fly in from Scottsbluff, North Platte, and Omaha. In addition, the hospital uses aircraft 52 times per year for emergency patient transfer via air ambulance. The facility ranks in the top tier of Nebraska Airports in terms of medical-related aircraft operations.

Summary

On an annual basis, Miller Field currently provides the following total benefits:

Miller Field			
EMPLOYMENT			
	First Round	Secondary	Total
On-Airport Activity	5	3	8
GA Visitors	<u>1</u>	<u>0.5</u>	<u>1.5</u>
Total	6	3.5	9.5
PAYROLL			
	First Round	Secondary	Total
On-Airport Activity	\$98,100	\$49,900	\$148,000
GA Visitors	<u>\$18,400</u>	<u>\$10,500</u>	<u>\$28,900</u>
Total	\$116,500	\$60,400	\$176,900
OUTPUT			
	First Round	Secondary	Total
On-Airport Activity	\$493,500	\$225,000	\$718,500
GA Visitors	<u>\$30,200</u>	<u>\$18,300</u>	<u>\$48,500</u>
Total	\$523,700	\$243,300	\$767,000

Source: Wilbur Smith Associates & IMPLAN multipliers

In a year’s time, capital improvement-related construction spending at airports in Nebraska typically produce the following impacts:

Construction Impacts - Per \$100,000 in CIP Spending			
	First-Round Impact	Secondary Impact	Total Impact
Employment	1.8	2.3	4.1
Payroll	\$55,264	\$41,206	\$96,470
Output	\$100,000	\$70,250	\$170,250

Source: Wilbur Smith Associates, Inc. & IMPLAN multipliers