

**Atlantic City International Airport
Economic Impact Study
June 2008**





Fast Facts:

- Economic activity at Atlantic City International Airport (ACY) alone creates over 4,500 jobs in the region*, and economic activity at all of the aviation-related entities on the property owned by the South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA) is responsible for over 10,700 jobs.
- Over 360,000 visitors traveled to the region via ACY in 2007. They spent \$185 million at local businesses during their stay. Each visitor spent \$514 per stay.
- Scheduled service passengers increased 34.7% in 2007 over the previous year.
- As an alternative, ACY saved passengers over 11 million miles and 314,000 hours traveling to and from the airport in 2007. This is valued at over \$20 million in benefits.
- The entire aviation complex on the airport property generates the equivalent of one-quarter of the economic activity of the entire Atlantic City casino industry.

* The region encompasses eight counties in southern New Jersey including Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean and Salem.





Study Results Summary

- ➔ In 2007, ACY produced the following economic impact on the region:
 - Overall Economic Impact = \$464 million due to capital, SJTA operations, and visitor spending
 - Total Payroll = \$136 million in earnings
 - Total Employment = 4,538 jobs
- ➔ ACY economic impact was created by:
 - Direct airport spending (capital, operating, vendors) = \$56 million
 - Spending by visitors that use the airport for tourism = \$185 million
 - Direct benefits to passengers from time and transportation cost savings (FAA calculation) = \$20.2 million
- ➔ Impacted Groups
 - Direct: Airport vendors, construction trades, engineering firms, aircraft maintenance/fuel companies, area hospitality industry – food, lodging, recreation, transportation businesses
 - Indirect: Retail, eating and drinking places, accommodations, vendors and suppliers to the airport, local businesses that serve employees connected to any airport activities

Conclusions

- **Impact on the Community:** increased economic opportunities; access for businesses, tourists, and residents; convenience; savings in time and miles compared to other airports.
- **Impact to Government:** an alternative to expensive investment in highway capacity; an environmentally sound enhancement to the transportation network; increased tourism and accompanying tax revenues.
- **Impact to Airlines:** opportunity to service a growing region and casino industry.





The South Jersey Transportation Authority

The South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA) owns Atlantic City International Airport. In addition to the approximately 2,200 acres of land leased to SJTA from Federal Aviation Administration Tech Center (FAATC), the airport consists of another 2,700 acres retained by the FAATC. In addition to the FAA structures, the property includes various government agencies – among them the New Jersey Air National Guard 177th Fighter Wing, United States Coast Guard Air Station/Atlantic City and the Transportation Security Agency Federal Air Marshal national training center.

Atlantic City International Airport

History

Atlantic City International Airport was originally established in 1942 as a Naval Air Station on 4,312 acres leased from the City of Atlantic City. In 1958, the lease was transferred to what is now the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The property was sold to the federal government for \$55,000 to provide a site for aviation test facilities with the stipulation that the city had the right to buy back the acreage for the same price should the federal government cease to use it.

The city retained 84 acres, where the civil aviation terminal and related support facilities now stand. On September 24, 1992, the South Jersey Transportation Authority acquired the Civil Terminal Area from the City of Atlantic City consisting of approximately 84 acres in Egg Harbor Township, N.J. SJTA was created in 1991 and operates as an instrumentality of the State of New Jersey pursuant to the South Jersey Transportation Act.

ACY Milestones

- ➔ Expansion of parking capacity – a new \$26.3 million, six-story, 1,370-space parking garage just steps from the terminal building opened on June 13, 2008 and accommodates visitors as well as rental cars and rental car offices, freeing areas in the terminal for additional leased space and allowing for more surface parking.
- ➔ The Samuel Adams Brew Pub opened on May 7, 2008 on the second floor of the terminal. The \$600,000 project was completed in three months and joins other restaurants available for seated dining. the Hudson News, and international company, opened two outlets in late 2008.
- ➔ Today, Spirit Airlines, Inc. is the main and dominant carrier.
- ➔ In the early 1960s, a Civil Terminal Building was constructed with a ticketing/waiting area added in 1989 and a second-floor expansion completed in May 1996. In June 2004, a 300-seat holding room and new administrative offices were completed.
- ➔ Current capacity of 1.2 million passengers per year services 120,000 annual airfield operations. The expansion began in 2008 will double passenger and airfield operations capacity.





Prepared by:

Center for Regional & Business Research, Atlantic Cape Community College
New Jersey's Science & Technology University
M&M Communications

For more information, contact:

Sharon Gordon
Atlantic City International Airport
101 Atlantic City Int'l Airport, Suite 106
Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234
Tel: 609-641-3833