



Economic Impact Study
Choteau Airport
2026



MONTANA
Department of Transportation



Choteau Airport Impact

Choteau Airport is a public-use general aviation airport located one mile northeast of Choteau, the county seat of Teton County, in north-central Montana. The airfield features two paved runways, the primary measuring 5,000 feet, and offers both 100LL and Jet A fuel with instrument approaches. The airport handles approximately 3,100 annual operations and supports recreational flying, agricultural operations in the surrounding Golden Triangle wheat-growing region, emergency medical transport, and military training. The facility provides a gateway to outdoor recreation along the nearby Rocky Mountain Front and the Bob Marshall Wilderness.



Total Economic Impact on Montana



Jobs
9



Economic Impact
\$1.2 Million



Payroll
\$350 Thousand

Qualitative Impacts

In addition to generating substantial economic impacts, this airport supports a variety of harder to quantify “Qualitative Impacts” that support critical statewide safety and enterprise. The 2026 Montana Statewide Economic Impact of Airports Study documents the following non-inclusive list of qualitative impacts associated with the airport:



Visitor Gateway
Serves as Gateway for High-Profile Visitors and Tourism



Corporate/Business Activity
Supports Corporate and Business Activity



Emergency Medical Aviation
Supports Air Ambulance Operations



Recreational Flying
Supports recreational flying and access



Military Exercise/Training
Supports Military Training and/or Transit Flights as needed

Source: Montana Statewide Economic Impact of Airports.

Montana Airports Support Our State



Jobs
39,400



Economic Impact
\$6.4 Billion



Payroll
\$2.4 Billion

Montana's airport system functions as a critical component of the state's transportation and economic infrastructure, enabling connectivity across a large and geographically dispersed landscape. Through scheduled commercial service and general aviation activity, airports provide access between Montana communities and regional, national, and international markets, supporting passenger travel, freight movement, and time-sensitive operations that cannot be efficiently served by surface transportation alone.

Beyond mobility, Montana's airports support a broad range of economic activity that contributes to employment, income generation, and business operations throughout the state. Aviation-related enterprises, on-airport and nearby businesses, visitor spending associated with air travel, and ongoing investment in airport facilities collectively generate economic activity at the local, regional, and statewide levels. These effects extend across multiple sectors, including tourism, healthcare, construction, professional services, and natural resource industries.

To document both the economic contributions and broader community functions of the state's aviation system, the Montana Department of Transportation undertook a comprehensive, statewide evaluation of Montana's airports. The **2026 Montana Statewide Economic Impact of Aviation** study examines the full scope of airport-related activity, including aviation and non-aviation businesses, visitor spending, capital investment, and secondary economic effects, while also identifying the specific roles individual airports play in supporting residents, businesses, and critical services across Montana.



Source: Montana Statewide Economic Impact of Airports.

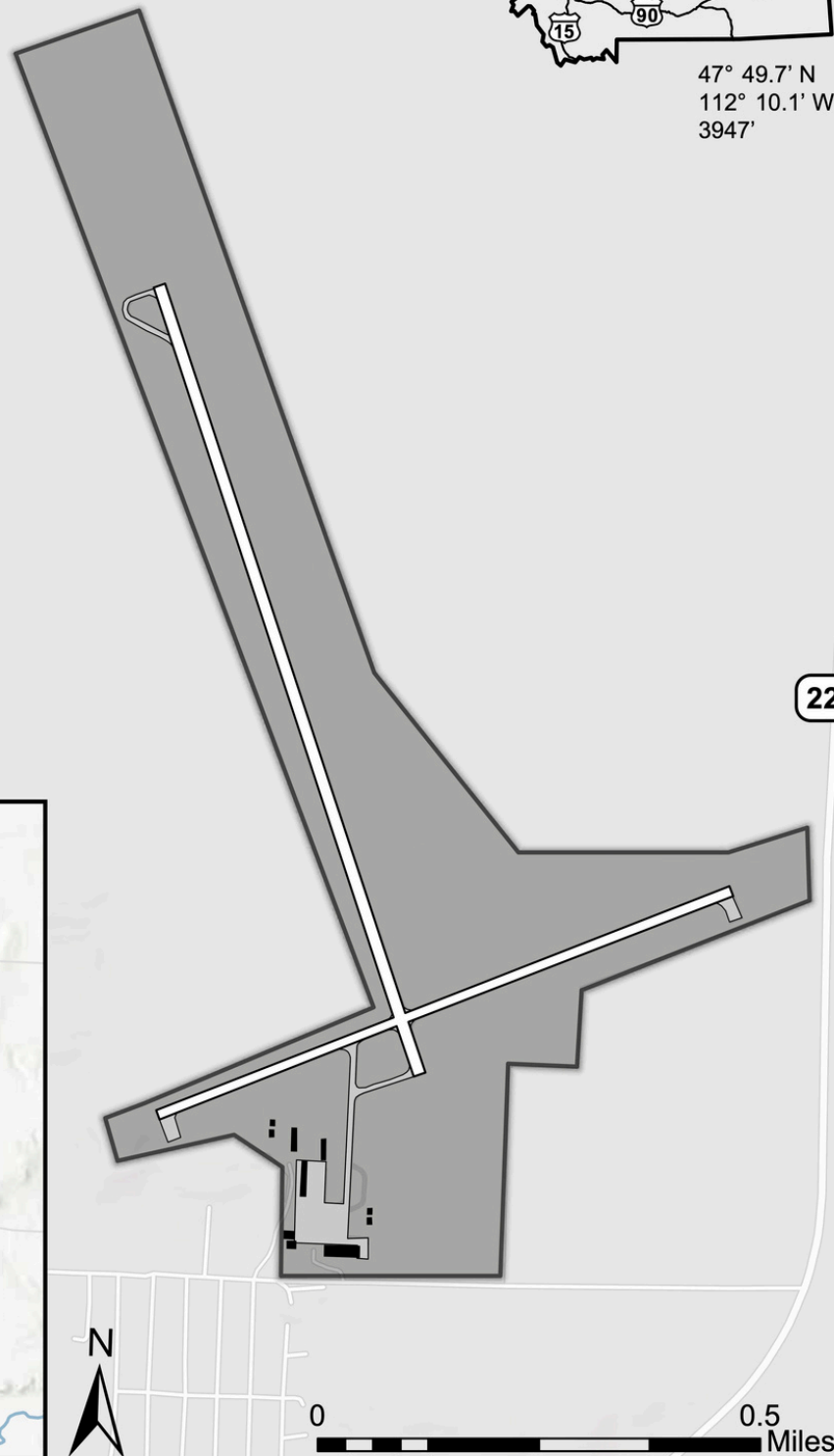
Choteau Airport (CII)

Choteau, MT



47° 49.7' N
112° 10.1' W
3947'

- Airport Extent
- Paved Runway
- Airport Structure
- Paved Area



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