



Economic Impact Study
Cut Bank International Airport
2026

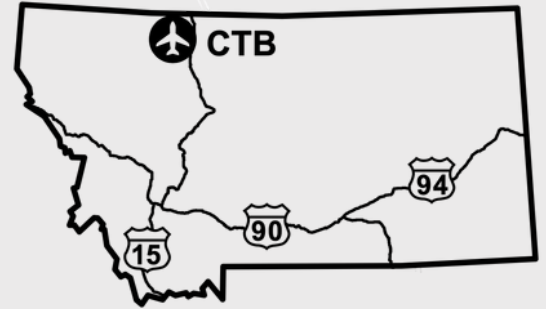


MONTANA
Department of Transportation



Cut Bank International Airport Impact

Cut Bank International Airport is a public-use general aviation airport located three miles southwest of Cut Bank, the county seat of Glacier County, in northern Montana approximately 25 miles south of the Canadian border. The 1,730-acre airfield features two runways, each measuring 5,300 feet, and handles approximately 8,250 annual operations. Originally constructed in 1942 as an Army Air Force B-17 bomber training base, the airport and its WWII-era facilities are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The airport offers 24-hour U.S. Customs service on call, making it an international port of entry, and serves as a gateway to Glacier National Park and the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. On-site facilities include the Cut Bank Airmen's Memorial Museum, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit preserving the base's wartime history. The airport hosts the annual Montana Fun Weekend, now in its 21st year, featuring an aircraft fly-in, car show, drag races, and fly-in breakfasts.



Total Economic Impact on Montana



Jobs
6



Economic Impact
\$850 Thousand



Payroll
\$260 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:



Recreation and Education
Provides Pilot Training, Aviation Education, and access to recreational flying



Police/Law Enforcement
Supports Police and Emergency Response Ops



Emergency Medical Aviation
Supports Air Ambulance Operations



Military Exercise/Training
Used for Military Training and/or Transit Flights



Agriculture Support
Supports Agriculture through Aerial Application



Community Resource
Staging area for community events such as Montana Fun Weekend

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.

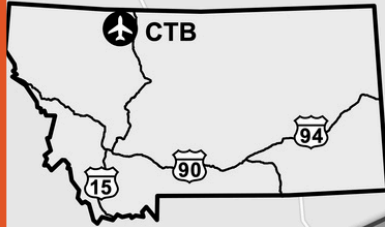
Beyond mobility, Montana's airports support a broad range of economic activity that contributes to employment, income generation, and business operations throughout the state. Aviation-related enterprises, on-airport and nearby businesses, visitor spending associated with air travel, and ongoing investment 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.

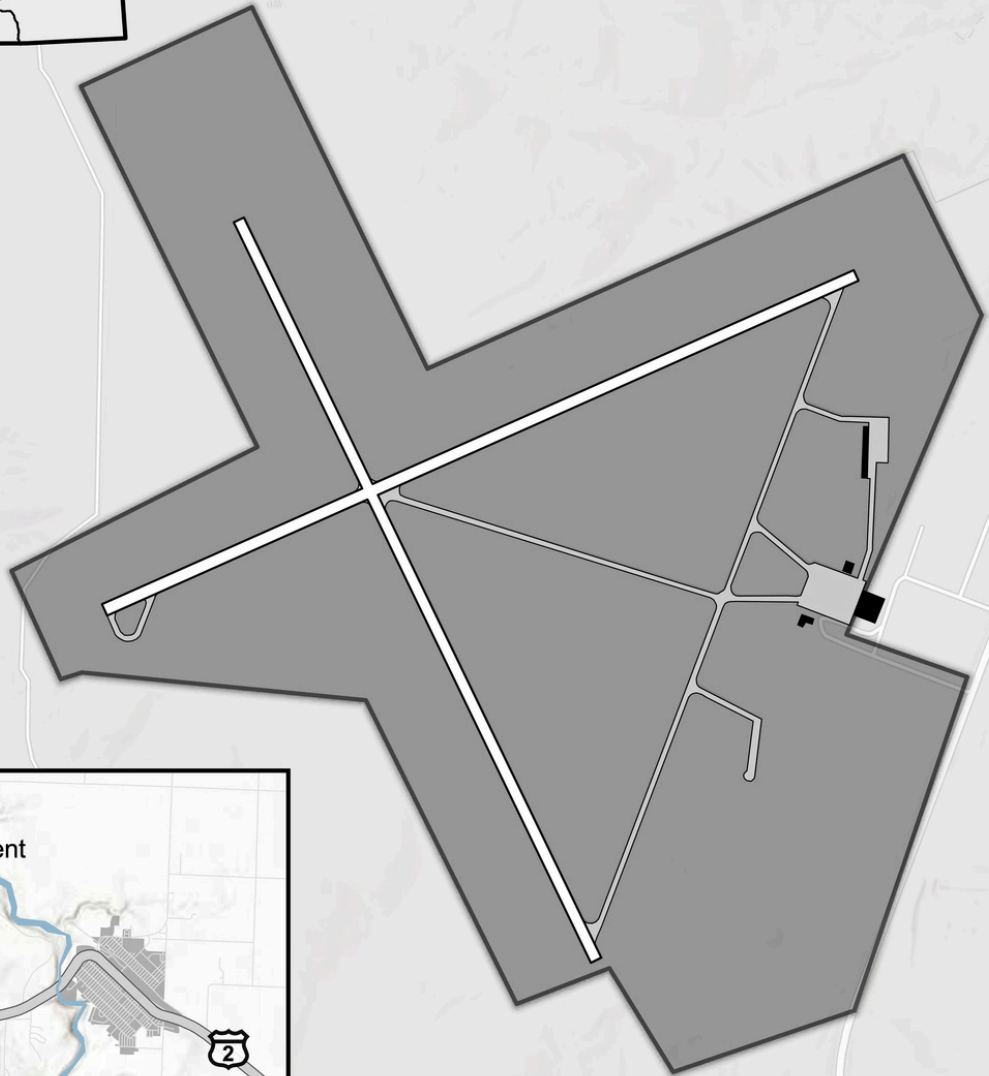
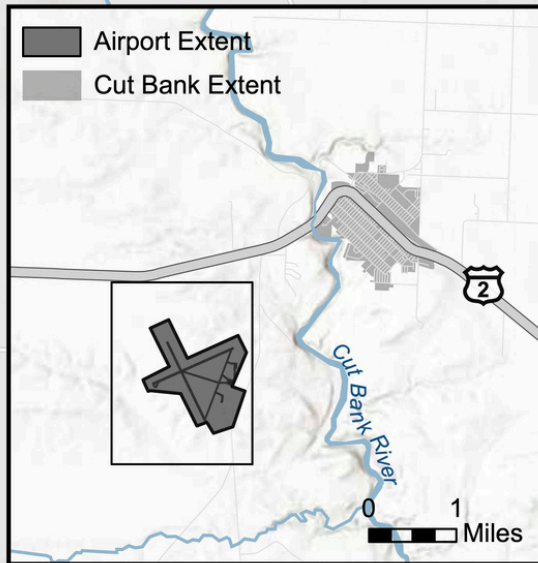


Cut Bank International Airport (CTB)

Cut Bank, MT



48° 36.5' N
112° 22.6' W
3858'



0 0.5 Miles

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

AERONAUTICS DIVISION
2630 Airport Road
PO Box 200507
Helena, MT 59620-0507



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