



Economic Impact Study  
**Ronan Airport**  
2026



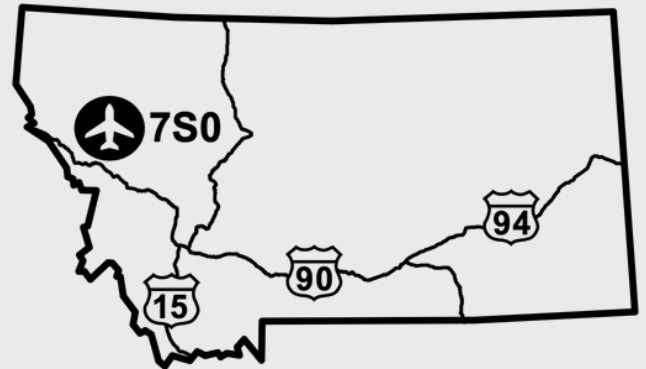
**MONTANA**  
Department of Transportation



**ZENITH**  
ECONOMICS

# Ronan Airport Impact

Ronan Airport is a public-use general aviation airport located in Ronan, in Lake County on the Flathead Indian Reservation in western Montana. The airfield features a primary runway of 4,798 feet and handles approximately 885 annual operations. The airport serves as the administrative hub of the Lake County Joint Airport Board and provides general aviation access for the Mission Valley community between Flathead Lake and the Mission Mountains. Open since 1952, the facility supports recreational flying and visitor access to the surrounding agricultural area and scenic corridor of northwest Montana.



## Total Economic Impact on Montana



**Jobs**  
3



**Economic Impact**  
\$376 Thousand



**Payroll**  
\$143 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:



**Emergency Medical Aviation**  
Supports Air Ambulance Operations



**Recreational Flying**  
Supports recreational flying and access



**Agriculture Support**  
Supports Agriculture through Aerial Application

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.

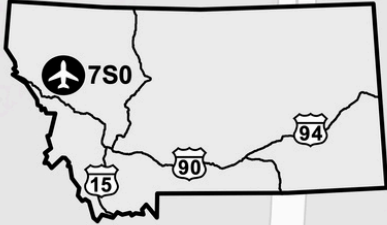
Beyond mobility, Montana's airports support a broad range of economic activity that contributes to employment, income generation, and business operations throughout the state. Aviation-related enterprises, on-airport and nearby businesses, visitor spending associated with air travel, and ongoing investment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

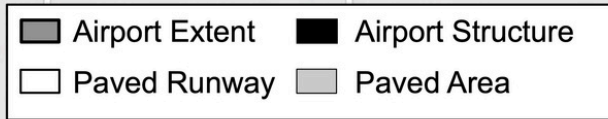
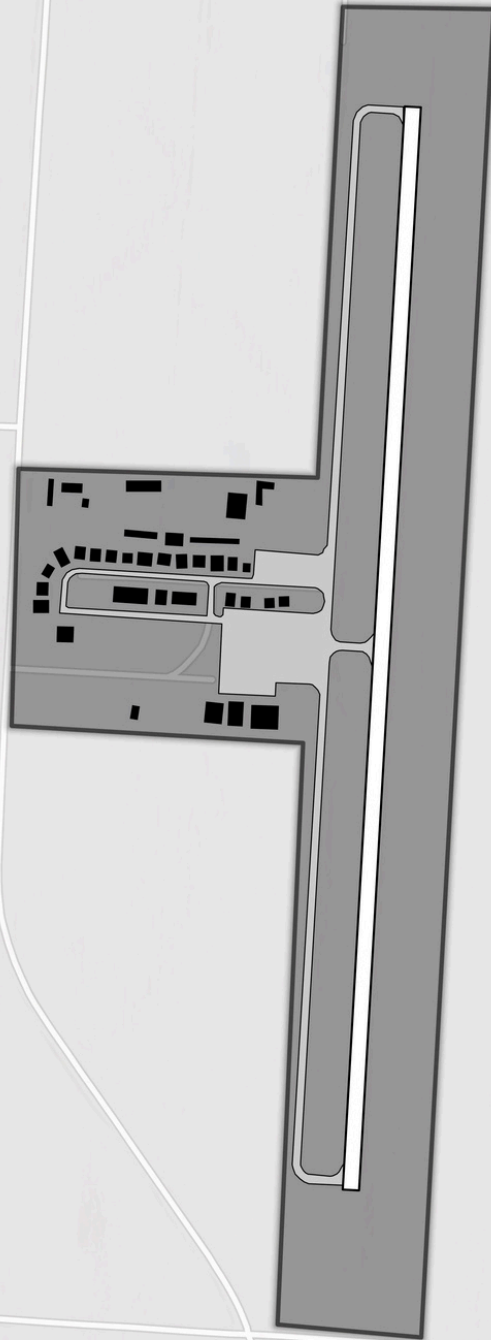
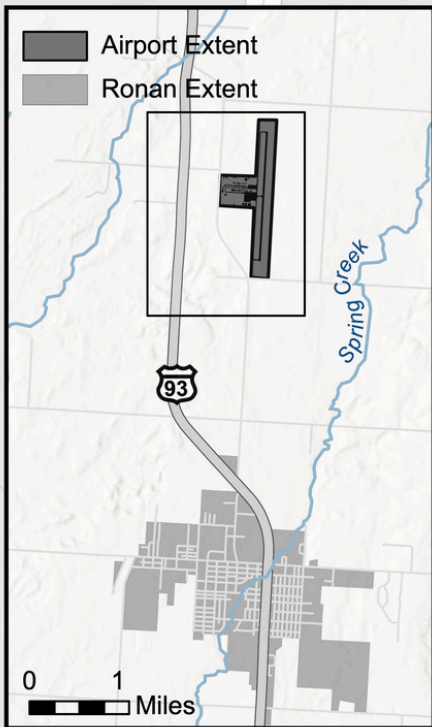


# Ronan Airport (7S0)

Ronan, MT



47° 34.0' N  
114° 6.1' W  
3086'



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