



2025 North Dakota
State Aviation System Plan



2025 North Dakota
Aviation Economic Impact Study

Kenmare Municipal Airport (7K5)

Associated City: Kenmare



7K5's Airport Economic Impacts

The impacts below present the sum of direct and multiplier impacts of all activity associated with 7K5. The table below offers a breakdown of the total impacts by direct, multiplier, total, and source of impact.

Jobs

29

Payroll

\$1.75 M

Value Added

\$2.28 M

Output

\$3.60 M

Source of Impact	Jobs		
	Direct	Multiplier	Total
Airport Management	1	<1	1
Airport Tenants	11	4	15
Capital Expenditures	3	1	4
GA Visitor Spending	6	2	8
CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Jobs Impacts	21	8	29

Source of Impact	Payroll		
	Direct	Multiplier	Total
Airport Management	\$4,000	\$17,000	\$21,000
Airport Tenants	\$938,000	\$243,000	\$1.18 M
Capital Expenditures	\$178,000	\$93,000	\$271,000
GA Visitor Spending	\$173,000	\$103,000	\$275,000
CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Payroll Impacts	\$1.29 M	\$456,000	\$1.75 M

Source of Impact	Value Added		
	Direct	Multiplier	Total
Airport Management	\$49,000	\$27,000	\$76,000
Airport Tenants	\$938,000	\$393,000	\$1.33 M
Capital Expenditures	\$258,000	\$160,000	\$417,000
GA Visitor Spending	\$290,000	\$166,000	\$456,000
CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Value Added Impacts	\$1.53 M	\$746,000	\$2.28 M

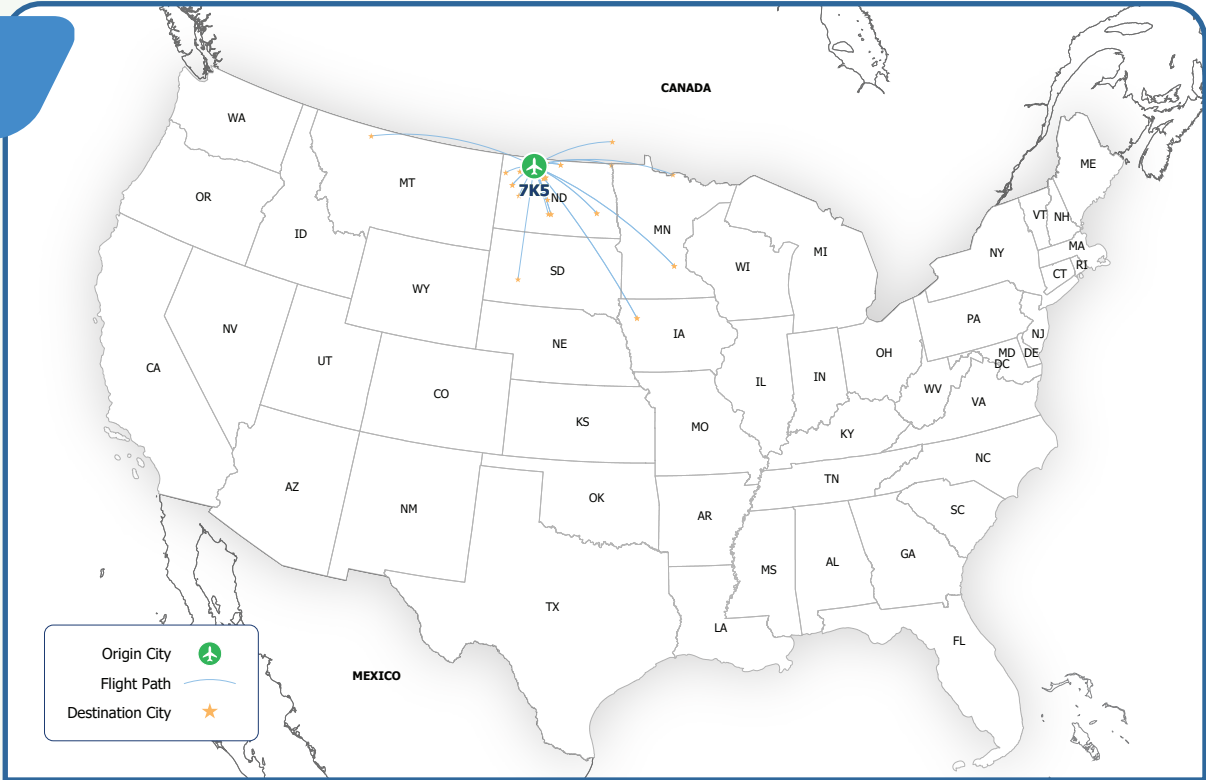
Source of Impact	Output		
	Direct	Multiplier	Total
Airport Management	\$64,000	\$48,000	\$112,000
Airport Tenants	\$1.11 M	\$697,000	\$1.80 M
Capital Expenditures	\$528,000	\$293,000	\$821,000
GA Visitor Spending	\$543,000	\$322,000	\$865,000
CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Output Impacts	\$2.24 M	\$1.36 M	\$3.60 M

Sources: 2025 NDAEIS Airport Manager Survey; IMPLAN, 2025; Kimley-Horn, 2025. Notes: Dollar values rounded to the nearest 1,000. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Airport Flight Map

This Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) map shows annual flight activity data and helps to demonstrate the important role that 7K5 plays in providing time-saving connections for local and visiting businesses and residents. IFR Flights Completed as Filed between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024.

Source: FlightAware



Airport Facts

The airport and the activities it supports generate approximately \$458,000 annually in federal, state, and local tax revenues.

An estimated 6,052 out-of-state visitors traveled through 7K5 in 2024 via general aviation aircraft.

Visitors using 7K5 spent approximately \$92,000 on lodging, \$157,000 on food and beverage, \$98,000 on local transportation, \$109,000 on retail, and \$87,000 on entertainment, supporting local businesses throughout the region.

7K5 offers 100LL services to based and transient aircraft, allowing the airport to support a variety of critical operations, such as flight instruction, corporate activity, and aerial inspections.

Over the past four years, more than \$2.1 million has been invested in capital improvements at 7K5, averaging approximately \$528,000 annually from federal, state, local, and private funding sources.

Study Methodology

Comprehensive data collection was essential to producing accurate economic impact estimates for calendar year 2024. Primary data sources, including airport staff, airport business tenants, and visitors, were used to estimate direct economic impacts. These data were gathered through onsite visits and a combination of in-person, telephone, and online surveys. Where needed, additional industry sources were consulted to supplement the primary data. A nationally recognized economic modeling platform, IMPLAN, was used to calculate multiplier effects. Economic impacts were estimated for airport management, airport tenants, capital investment activity, GA visitor spending, and commercial service visitor spending.

Economic Impact Levels

The economic impacts for North Dakota's airports are presented at three distinct levels (direct, multiplier, and total) to describe where in the economic cycle the impact is generated.

Airport Administration

Airport Tenants

Capital Investment

GA and Commercial Services Visitor Spending

Indirect

Portions of direct output used to purchase goods and services from businesses inside the study region

Multiplier Impacts

Induced

Income earned by workers from direct and supplier sales transactions that are then spent inside the study region

Total Impacts

There are four measures used to express the economic impact of North Dakota's airports: jobs, payroll, value added, and output.

Jobs

Total number of people employed. This includes both full-time and part-time because of aviation.

Payroll

Total employment compensation, including wages and benefits, of those employed

Value Added

The value of final goods and services produced locally because of economic activity, excluding the value of goods and services used to produce them

Output

Total expenditures associated with airport administration, capital projects, tenant sales of goods and services, as well as visitor spending in North Dakota's hospitality-related sectors

About Kenmare Municipal Airport

Located in northwestern North Dakota, Kenmare Municipal Airport (7K5) plays a vital role in supporting healthcare access, business efficiency, and agricultural productivity in the region. Kenmare Memorial Hospital relies on the airport for patient transfers to advanced medical facilities and for regular visits from contracted professionals, including a pharmacist who flies in weekly to serve the hospital. In a rural state where major trauma centers are hours away, the airport provides critical access when time is of the essence. Local and visiting businesses also benefit from the airport's connectivity. Companies such as Buffalo River Enterprises, Weather Modification, Great Plains Electric, and State Bank & Trust of Kenmare use general aviation to reduce travel time and improve operational efficiency, turning multi-day trips into single-day visits. Agriculture is a cornerstone of the region's economy, and Great Plains Aero, an aerial applicator based at the airport, plays a key role in supporting area farmers and ranchers. Aerial treatments help manage crops and pastureland efficiently, especially under challenging field conditions. The airport also welcomes recreational pilots and aviation enthusiasts, offering a quiet and accessible space for flying. Kenmare Municipal Airport is a small facility with a wide-reaching impact—connecting people, services, and opportunity across rural North Dakota.



Airport Activities

Flight Instruction

Corporate Activity

Medevac

Gateway for Recreation

Law Enforcement

Runways

The most critical infrastructure of an airport is the runway system. Runway characteristics determine the types of activity the airport can support.

Type	Orientation	Dimensions	Surface	Approach
Primary Runway	08/26	3,700 ft x 60 ft	Asphalt	VIS / RNAV (GPS)
Secondary Runway	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tertiary Runway	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Additional Runway	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Aviation Activity Demand Forecasts

Aviation activity demand forecasts are included in the NDSASP to understand how aviation demand is expected to change over time. These forecasts help inform future infrastructure needs and long-term system planning decisions.

Activity Type	Base Year (2024)	Future Year (2044)	2024-2044 CAGR
Commercial Service Enplanements	N/A	N/A	N/A
Commercial Service Operations	N/A	N/A	N/A
General Aviation Operations	3,900	4,560	0.79%
Based Aircraft	30	35	0.77%

Note: CAGR = Compound Annual Growth Rate

