



2025 North Dakota
State Aviation System Plan



2025 North Dakota
Aviation Economic Impact Study

Harry Stern Airport (BWP)

Associated City: Wahpeton



BWP's Airport Economic Impacts

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

Jobs				Payroll				Value Added				Output			
 34				 \$2.00 M				 \$2.61 M				 \$4.05 M			
Source of Impact		Jobs			Source of Impact		Payroll			Source of Impact		Output			
	Direct	Multiplier	Total		Direct	Multiplier	Total		Direct	Multiplier	Total		Direct	Multiplier	Total
Airport Management	1	1	2	Airport Management	\$12,000	\$30,000	\$42,000	Airport Management	\$115,000	\$86,000	\$201,000	Airport Management	\$115,000	\$86,000	\$201,000
Airport Tenants	16	5	21	Airport Tenants	\$1.06 M	\$315,000	\$1.38 M	Airport Tenants	\$1.31 M	\$895,000	\$2.21 M	Airport Tenants	\$1.31 M	\$895,000	\$2.21 M
Capital Expenditures	2	1	4	Capital Expenditures	\$191,000	\$88,000	\$279,000	Capital Expenditures	\$503,000	\$279,000	\$783,000	Capital Expenditures	\$503,000	\$279,000	\$783,000
GA Visitor Spending	5	2	7	GA Visitor Spending	\$201,000	\$102,000	\$303,000	GA Visitor Spending	\$537,000	\$319,000	\$856,000	GA Visitor Spending	\$537,000	\$319,000	\$856,000
CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A	CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A	CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A	CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Jobs Impacts	25	9	34	Total Payroll Impacts	\$1.47 M	\$535,000	\$2.00 M	Total Output Impacts	\$2.47 M	\$1.58 M	\$4.05 M				
Source of Impact		Value Added			Source of Impact		Output								
	Direct	Multiplier	Total		Direct	Multiplier	Total		Direct	Multiplier	Total				
Airport Management	\$81,000	\$48,000	\$129,000	Airport Management	\$115,000	\$86,000	\$201,000	Airport Management	\$115,000	\$86,000	\$201,000				
Airport Tenants	\$1.07 M	\$504,000	\$1.57 M	Airport Tenants	\$1.31 M	\$895,000	\$2.21 M	Airport Tenants	\$1.31 M	\$895,000	\$2.21 M				
Capital Expenditures	\$282,000	\$152,000	\$434,000	Capital Expenditures	\$503,000	\$279,000	\$783,000	Capital Expenditures	\$503,000	\$279,000	\$783,000				
GA Visitor Spending	\$310,000	\$164,000	\$474,000	GA Visitor Spending	\$537,000	\$319,000	\$856,000	GA Visitor Spending	\$537,000	\$319,000	\$856,000				
CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A	CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A	CS Visitor Spending	N/A	N/A	N/A				
Total Value Added Impacts	\$1.74 M	\$869,000	\$2.61 M	Total Output Impacts	\$2.47 M	\$1.58 M	\$4.05 M								

Associated City: Wahpeton
County: Richland
NDSASP Classification: Local
FAA ID: BWP

About Harry Stern Airport

Located in southeastern North Dakota, just south of downtown Wahpeton, Harry Stern Airport (BWP) plays a vital role in supporting regional business, aviation training, healthcare access, and recreational flying. Businesses such as Comstock Construction, DuPont Pioneer, and Schwan Financial utilize the airport to reduce travel time and improve operational efficiency, turning multi-day trips into single-day flights. The airport's open layout and low traffic volume make it an ideal environment for flight training. Student pilots from the University of North Dakota and the North Dakota National Guard regularly use BWP for fixed-wing and helicopter operations. The airport's FBO, Tri-State Aviation, also specializes in warbird restoration and are particularly well known for their P-51 Mustang work. Its unobstructed surroundings support safe and effective pilot development. Harry Stern Airport also contributes to critical healthcare access. Sanford Health and Life Source use the airport for medevac and organ transport missions, helping connect rural patients to advanced care facilities across the region. Recreational pilots frequently visit as part of the North Dakota Airport Passport Program, and the airport supports aviation hobbyists with a welcoming, accessible environment. Whether serving commercial, educational, or emergency needs, Harry Stern Airport is a key asset for Wahpeton and the surrounding region, enhancing connectivity, safety, and quality of life.



Airport Activities



Recreational Flying



Corporate Activity



Military Training



Flight Instruction



Agricultural
Spraying

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	15/33	5,100 ft x 75 ft	Concrete	RNAV (GPS) / RNAV (GPS)
Secondary Runway	03/21	3,254 ft x 150 ft	Turf	VIS / VIS
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	17,800	18,960	0.32%
Based Aircraft	32	37	0.73%

Note: CAGR = Compound Annual Growth Rate



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