

# STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Division of Aeronautics

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Greetings,

On behalf of the Colorado Aeronautical Board and the Colorado Department of Transportation, I am pleased to present the *2003 Economic Impacts of Colorado Airports*.

As many communities throughout the great State of Colorado will attest, aviation plays a vital role in the accessibility, prosperity and overall quality of life for the citizens of those communities. From Denver International Airport, currently the 10<sup>th</sup> busiest airport in the world, to the small general aviation airports located on the eastern plains, the Colorado Airport System provides direct access to Colorado's strong and diverse business communities as well as its vast cultural and recreational opportunities.

Whether it be a doctor flying into a small, rural general aviation airport to provide medical care to a community or a skier visiting one of Colorado's well-know resort destinations, every aircraft operation and visitor to that airport has a positive economic impact to the local, regional and statewide economies. While the specific role and impact of each airport may be very different, on a whole, Colorado's public-use airports play a significant role in the overall economic health and viability of the State of Colorado.

Colorado has much to offer both its residents and visitors alike. It is our goal that the results of this study show just how important Colorado's airports are not only to the state overall, but more importantly, to each individual community. There is no doubt that Colorado's airports currently play a major role in the economic success and viability of Colorado and they will continue to do so in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Travis L. Vallin". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Travis L. Vallin  
Colorado Aeronautics Director