

# MRB

## EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA REGIONAL/SHEPHERD FIELD

Eastern West Virginia Regional/Shepherd Field (MRB) serves fast-growing and relatively affluent communities in the Eastern Panhandle and in nearby Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. MRB is West Virginia’s general aviation (GA) leader, being home to more based aircraft than any other airport. The facility offers a fixed-base operation (FBO) and in-house, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-Part 135-certified charter service using the “MRB Aviation” trade name. Possessing the longest, widest, and strongest runway in the state and designed for regular use by some of the world’s largest aircraft, MRB frequently receives training visits by all branches of the military, including Presidential VIP transport. The West Virginia Air National Guard’s 167<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing at MRB maintains the state’s largest airbase and conducts global strategic airlift operations. Martinsburg’s desirable location attracts major investment by federal government agencies, along with data centers, distribution warehouses, and manufacturing plants. With proximity to numerous interstate corridors and intermodal transfer facilities, MRB offers more than 160 acres of developable land within the state’s only on-airport Foreign Trade Zone. MRB is also home to two flight training companies, including an FAA Part 141-certified flight training school. Despite the pandemic, 2020 saw the Airport Authority welcome four new businesses and significant increases in aircraft takeoffs and landings, flight school training hours, fuel gallons sold, and charter trips booked.

### AIRPORT ACTIVITIES



**Military Exercises/Training**



**Corporate/Business Activity**



**Career Training/ Flight Instruction**



**Medical Transport/ Evacuation**



**Location of Community Facilities**

**City:** Martinsburg  
 (MRB is approximately 4 miles south)

**County:** Berkeley

**Tourism Region:**  
 Eastern Panhandle

**Ownership:** Public

**Primary Runway 08/26:**  
 8,815' x 150'



### AIRPORT CLASSIFICATION

Eastern West Virginia Regional/Shepherd Field is one of 17 GA facilities in West Virginia’s aviation system. GA airports serve as integral gateways to communities across the state and accommodate activities such as emergency medical operations, business and recreational operations, mail and cargo transportation, remote access, and many more. The airport is categorized by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a Reliever airport and is eligible for federal aviation funding through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP).



# AVIATION'S ECONOMIC IMPACT

The 2020 West Virginia Aviation Economic Impact Study (WV AEIS) was conducted using 2019 data to quantify the economic contributions of West Virginia's airport system to the state's economy. The 24 publicly owned airports in the state support the transportation of people, goods, and services to, from, and within the Mountain State. This generates quantitative economic value in the form of jobs, payroll, value added, and business revenues, but airports also enhance the quality of life for West Virginians by supporting air ambulance operations, remote access and evacuation, just-in-time deliveries of freight, aerial firefighting, aviation career opportunities, and much more.

Economic benefits are generated by on-airport activities including employment (e.g., airport administration and tenants) and capital improvements (e.g., construction). Economic impacts are also generated off-airport when money is spent by out-of-state visitors traveling to West Virginia via the state's seven commercial service airports and 17 GA airports, and when air cargo transported via the state's airports supports the operation of off-airport businesses.

This initial economic activity, known as direct impacts, generates additional impacts as money flows through the economy. These "multiplier" effects result when a portion of direct business revenues are used to purchase goods and services in West Virginia (called supplier sales) and payroll is re-spent within the state (called income re-spending). In addition, direct impacts for on-airport activities and visitor spending also generate \$75.5 million in tax impacts annually.

## Economic Impact Indicators

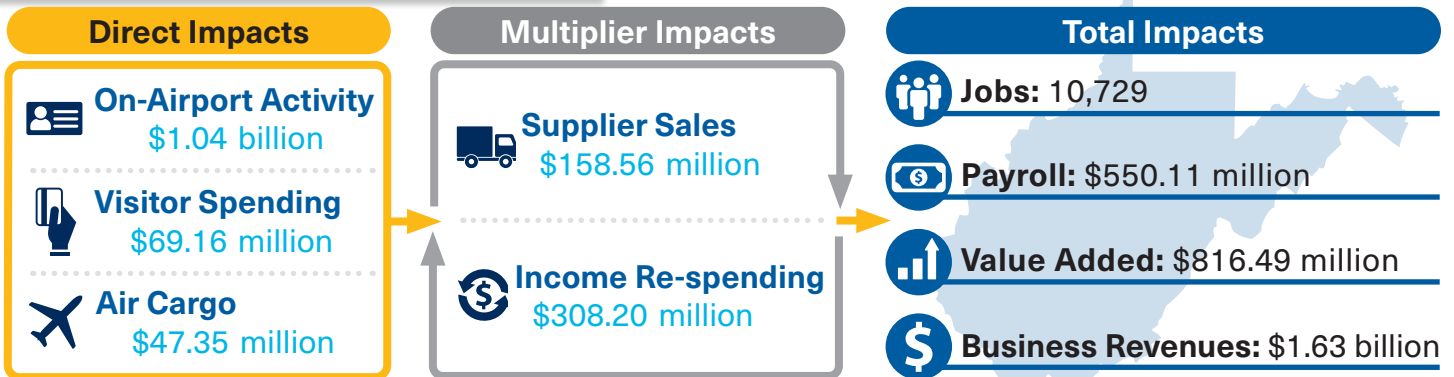
**Jobs:** The number of employed people

**Payroll:** The sum of compensation to workers (salaries, wages, and benefits) and proprietor income

**Value Added:** The value contributed to a product or service provided by a firm or group of firms. Value added is aviation's contribution to West Virginia's Gross State Product (GSP)

**Business Revenues:** An airport's total aviation-supported output including the sum of business sales and budget expenditures

## Statewide Economic Impacts



## Eastern West Virginia Regional/Shepherd Field's Economic Impacts

	<b>Jobs</b>	<b>Payroll</b>	<b>Value Added</b>	<b>Business Revenues</b>
<b>On-Airport Activity</b>	1,688	\$72,125,000	\$82,345,000	\$94,495,000
<b>Visitor Spending</b>	9	\$236,000	\$378,000	\$706,000
<b>Total Direct Impacts</b>	1,697	\$72,362,000	\$82,723,000	\$95,201,000
<b>Supplier Sales</b>	53	\$2,432,000	\$3,877,000	\$7,982,000
<b>Income Re-spending</b>	392	\$15,830,000	\$23,611,000	\$50,626,000
<b>Total Multiplier Impacts</b>	445	\$18,262,000	\$27,488,000	\$58,608,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,142</b>	<b>\$90,623,000</b>	<b>\$110,211,000</b>	<b>\$153,809,000</b>

Notes: Totals may not add due to rounding. Metrics (jobs, payroll, value added, and business revenues) represent various components of an airport's economic impact and are not additive. Sources: WV AEIS Airport Manager Survey; Airport Tenant Survey; Commercial Air Passenger Survey; Transient GA Pilot & Passenger Survey, 2020; FAA 5010 Airport Master Record, FAA Terminal Area Forecast, Airline Data, Inc., 2019; Longwoods International, 2018; Calculations by EBP US using IMPLAN V.3 2018, 2021.