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MEDIA RELEASE

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Australian airports confirmed as vital to economy

After the disruption of the pandemic to the Australian airport sector, a new report has reconfirmed that the sector remains vital to Australia's economic and social fabric.

The Deloitte Access Economics report, *Taking Flight: the economic and social contribution of Australia's airports*, was released this morning at the Australian Airports Association (AAA) National Conference and Industry Expo in Melbourne.

AAA Chief Executive, James Goodwin said the report highlights the vital contribution airports makes to Australia with the sector contributing to around 5 per cent of Australia's gross domestic product (GDP).

"Far beyond their economic impact, airports soar as vital hubs, supporting local communities by facilitating a diverse spectrum of aviation services," Mr Goodwin said.

"Australia's airports make a crucial contribution to the social fabric and welfare of our local communities, while supporting one in 20 jobs.

"Beyond commercial aviation services, airports also provide critical infrastructure and services to support a range of general aviation activity.

"Additionally, airports allow for the efficient delivery of goods and rapid response to emergencies that cannot necessarily be achieved without aviation.

"To future proof the sector, airports will seek new international and domestic routes, providing more competition and connectivity into the Australian market.

"The report identifies the largest challenge facing airports of all sizes is increased government regulation and the risk that this could limit the sector's continuing economic and social contribution to Australia,"

"It is important the Federal Government considers ways to unlock investment and reduce any unnecessary regulatory barriers as part of the Aviation White Paper process."

View the *Taking Flight: the economic and social contribution of Australia's airports* report [here](#).

The AAA is the national voice for airports, representing the interests of more than

340 airports and aerodromes across Australia. It also represents more than 150 corporate members supplying products and services to airports and the wider aviation industry.
Ends.

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Key data from *Taking Flight: the economic and social contribution of Australia's airports*

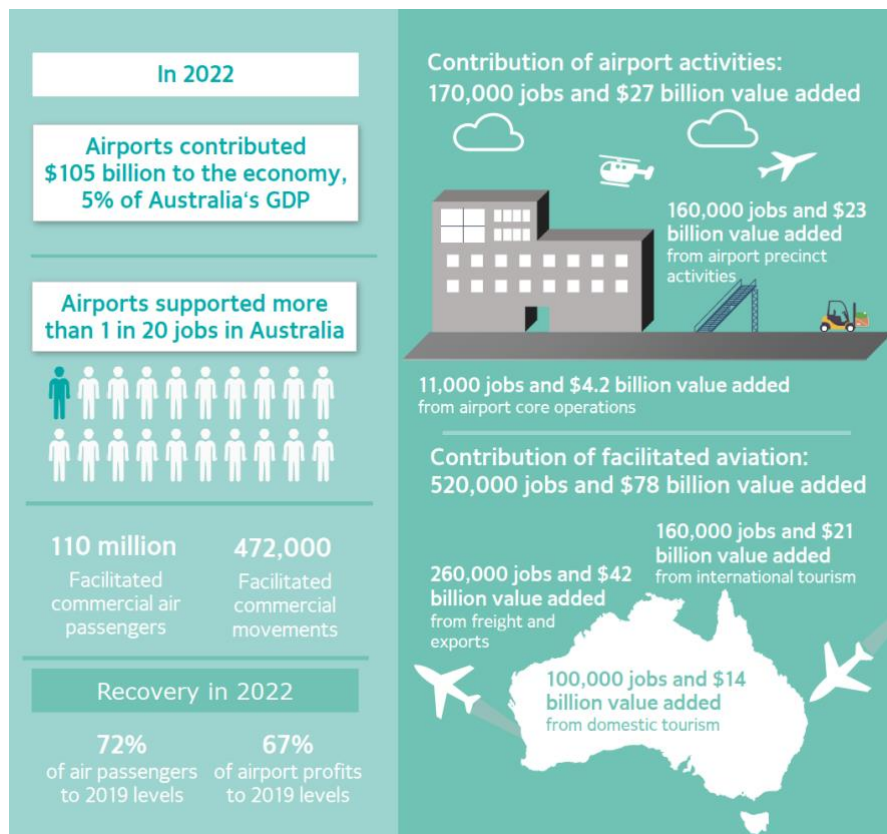


Figure 3.1: Economic contribution of Australia's airports, 2022

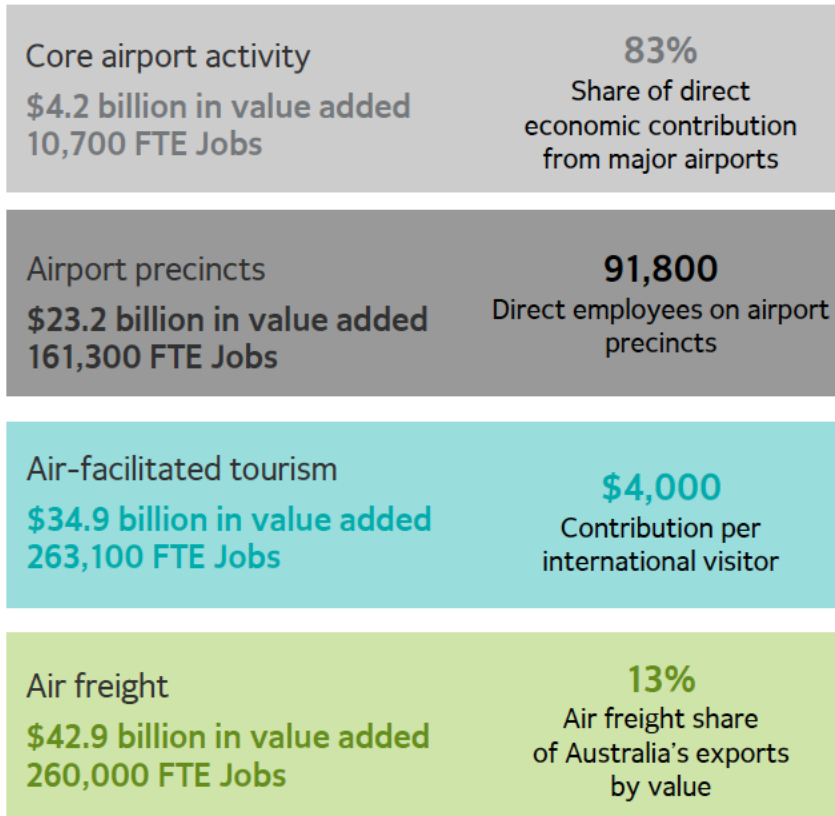
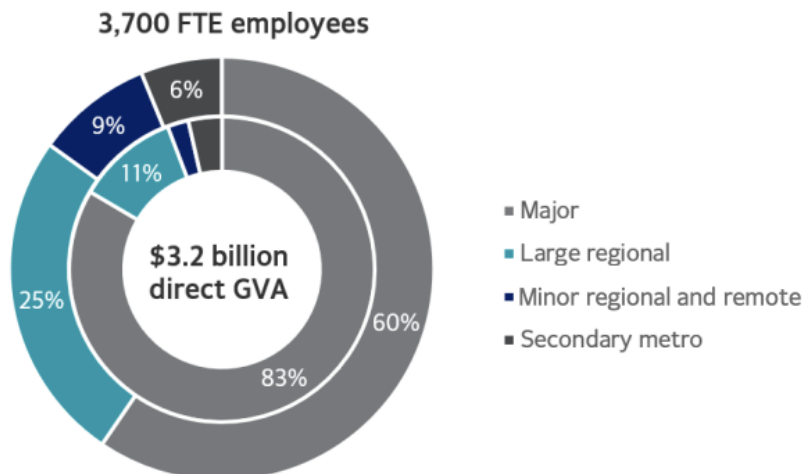
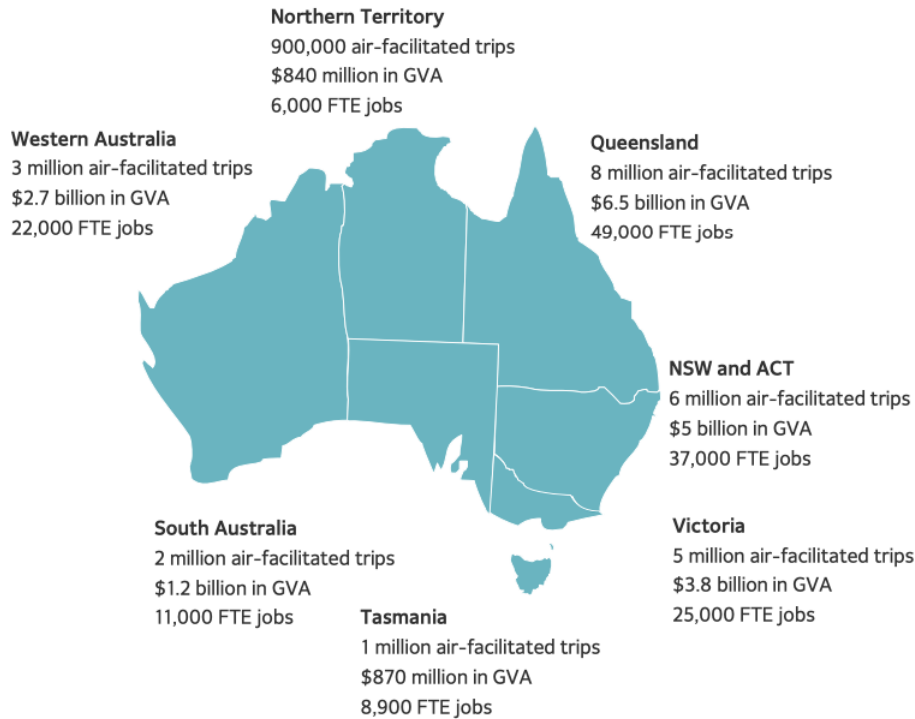


Chart 3.1: Direct employees and gross value added (GVA) of airport core operations, 2022



Source: Deloitte Access Economics

Figure 3.3: Economic contribution of airport facilitated domestic visitors



Source: Tourism Research Australia, Deloitte Access Economics analysis
 Note: Economic contribution estimates calculated from Tourism Research Australia visitor numbers and expenditure figures and are not derived from the survey of airports. For more details on the facilitated tourism economic contribution framework and approach, refer to Appendix C: Tourism contribution framework.

Figure 3.5: Key source markets for international visitors, 2022

