

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**14 November 2023** 

## 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 <u>here</u>.

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

83% Core airport activity \$4.2 billion in value added 10,700 FTE Jobs

Share of direct economic contribution from major airports

Airport precincts

\$23.2 billion in value added 161,300 FTE Jobs

91,800

Direct employees on airport precincts

Air-facilitated tourism

\$34.9 billion in value added 263,100 FTE Jobs

\$4,000

Contribution per international visitor

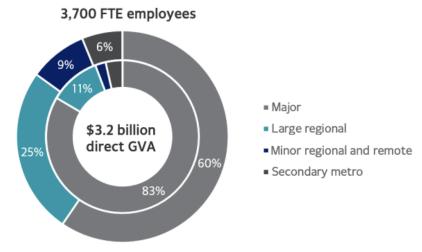
Air freight

\$42.9 billion in value added 260,000 FTE Jobs

13%

Air freight share of Australia's exports by value

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



Source: Deloitte Access Economics

**Northern Territory** 900,000 air-facilitated trips \$840 million in GVA 6,000 FTE jobs Western Australia Queensland 3 million air-facilitated trips 8 million air-facilitated trips \$2.7 billion in GVA \$6.5 billion in GVA 22,000 FTE jobs 49,000 FTE jobs NSW and ACT 6 million air-facilitated trips \$5 billion in GVA 37,000 FTE jobs Victoria South Australia 5 million air-facilitated trips 2 million air-facilitated trips \$3.8 billion in GVA \$1.2 billion in GVA 25,000 FTE jobs 11,000 FTE jobs Tasmania 1 million air-facilitated trips

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.

\$870 million in GVA 8,900 FTE jobs

Figure 3.5: Key source markets for international visitors, 2022

