# NORTH TEXAS REGIONAL AIRPORT ANNUAL REPORT

ORTHITEXAS REGIONAL TROP



#### BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS:

Bill Douglass - Chair Todd Thompson – Vice Chair Brent Rowland Gen Ron Allen, Ret'd Casey Shires The Board of Directors for North Texas Regional Airport, NTRA, is pleased to present the airport's 2024 Annual Report. We want to share some of the benefits NTRA has provided our community and the growth the airport experienced in the last year.

North Texas Regional Airport is a self-sufficient, public use, general aviation facility that serves the region's air transportation needs. Originally constructed as an Army Airfield, and later designated as a U. S. Air Force Base, the airport sits on over 1,400 acres of land. It boasts a 9,000' runway, with a full parallel taxiway, and a secondary runway that is 4,008'. The land mass of NTRA is larger than that of Dallas Love Field and the runway is longer than the primary runways at many commercial service airports in Texas, including Houston Hobby, San Antonio International, Dallas Love Field, and Corpus Christi International, to name a few.

Given the sizable infrastructure, airport leadership strives to maintain and improve the facilities and to protect the investments previously made in NTRA. Making wise decisions and investments in the airport to improve facilities, increase operating revenues, and expand opportunities are all goals of the BOD. Revenue streams have been assessed, rates and charges have been adjusted to better compete in the market area, and grant opportunities have been explored to improve facilities and strengthen the operational and financial position of the airport.

We are focused on being a first-class airport that caters to the local business community and aeromedical industry; we endeavor to expand aeronautical services, and further economic development initiatives; and we are motivated to partnering with a variety of industry agencies, companies, and stakeholders to advance the airport and enhance its value.

We are grateful to the Grayson County Commissioners' Court, our community, tenants, and Rise Aviation for their collaborative efforts, support, and commitment over the last year. We are excited about the future of NTRA and look forward to another successful year.

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BILL DOUGLAS CHAIRMAN



BRUCE DAWSEY GRAYSON COUNTY JUDGE "North Texas Regional Airport is an economic engine for the county, providing quality services, positively impacting our local business environment, and enhancing quality of life features for our residents and visitors. The Grayson County Commissioners' Court appreciates the time and efforts of the Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority to further promote aeronautic activity and drive economic development in the county."

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

### **AIRPORT OVERVIEW**

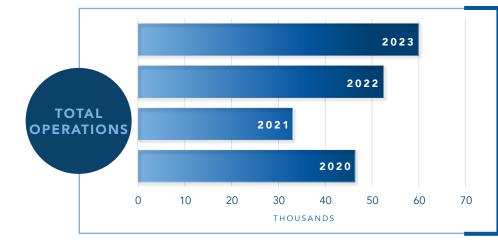
North Texas Regional Airport, NTRA, serves as an economic engine for the region helping to drive growth in the area while accommodating the increasing number of visitors to the North Texas/Lake Texoma area. NTRA is in Grayson County three miles south of Pottsboro, six miles northwest of Sherman, and seven miles southwest of Denison. The airport serves the Greater Texoma region made up of communities along the Texas/Oklahoma border along the Red River Valley. The airport is 60 miles north of Dallas and 10 miles south of the Oklahoma border. Sitting on more than 1,400 acres, the airport is served by excellent roadway access including State Highway 289 which provides access to development opportunities on the airport's west side.

The airport's most notable asset is its 9,000-foot-long runway which is 150-feet wide and includes an Instrument Landing System (ILS) precision instrument approach allowing for operations under adverse weather conditions. The airport also boasts a full parallel taxiway that better serves operators especially during times with busy traffic, which is not unusual on sunny days in North Texas. NTRA is also fortunate to have an air traffic control tower that is staffed from 7am to 7pm to help facilitate the safe and efficient flow of air traffic.

The exceptional runway/taxiway system coupled with the ILS approach system allows for a wide variety of aviation activity from small, general aviation aircraft to larger corporate jets. Current activity at NTRA includes operations associated with pilot training, business and corporate travel, tourism serving the Lake Texoma region, and aircraft training related to fighting wildfires in Texas. NTRA also regularly accommodates air medical flights extending critical medical services to residents and visitors in and around Grayson County. Valuable services offered at NTRA that promote the airport and entice new tenants and traffic include aircraft maintenance services, flight instruction, and an airport rescue and firefighting (ARFF) facility which provides a quicker and higher level of emergency response.

The airport is home to 159 based aircraft including 11 business jets and 27 multi-engine aircraft. All hangars are leased and the FBO has a waiting list of potential tenants should any hangars become available or should new hangar development occur. There are currently 79 hangars encompassing 562,525 square feet on the airport. In 2023, the airport had close to 60,000 operations up from 33,000 in 2021. Fuel sales have also dramatically increased in the last few years, nearly doubling from 2020 to 2023.

Currently, NTRA is classified as a Regional General Aviation Airport by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for its role in supporting the regional economy and connecting communities to statewide and interstate markets. The burgeoning economic and population growth of the area is impacting corporate use of the airport. It is expected that the airport will soon be elevated to a National General Aviation Airport as a result of staff efforts to update the national data base with accurate based aircraft count. In addition, aircraft activity has shown the airport supports national and international markets. If reclassified to a National Airport, NTRA will be eligible to receive additional federal funding through the Airport Infrastructure Grant Program associated with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, passed in November of 2021.





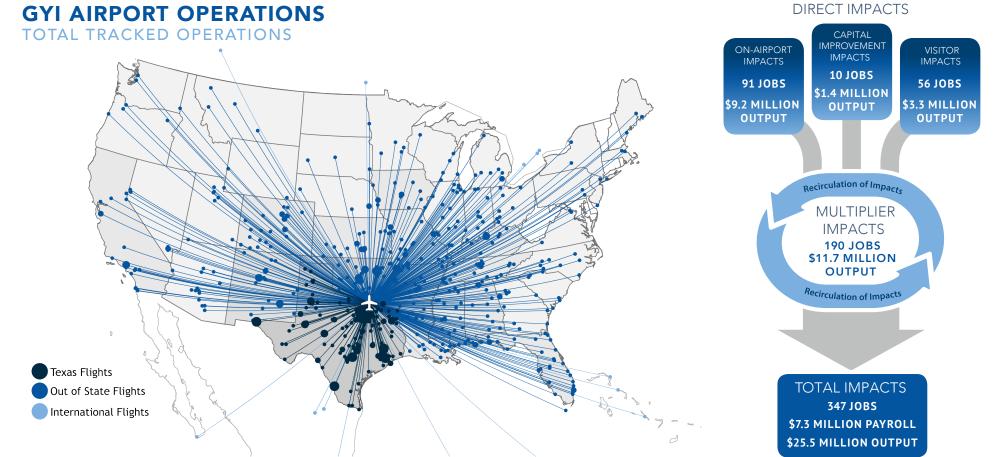
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## **BUSINESS/GENERAL AVIATION ACTIVITY**

The economic impact provided by the airport is substantial. The most recent data from TxDOT (2018) show the airport supports 347 jobs with a payroll of \$7.3 million and a total economic output of \$25.5 million. This includes economic activity that takes place on the airport, capital improvements, and visitor impacts along with their associated multiplier effects. These numbers are certain to be much greater today.



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## **BUSINESS/GENERAL AVIATION ACTIVITY**



"Without the small-town hospitality offered at NTRA, Thrust Flight would not be able to produce over 100 pilots a year for airlines." Hunter Gravley, VP of Business Operations

Dog is My Copilot has operated out of NTRA rescuing 80+ dogs per flight from southern states and transporting them to northern states for a second chance at life.

#### ALPINE AIR EXPRESS

Founded in 1975, Alpine Air Express is a rapidly growing cargo operator and is one of the country's largest all cargo regional airlines. The company has contracts in place with the United States Postal Service and with United Parcel Service and is focused on high growth secondary markets in the Western United States. The airport serves as a maintenance hub for the company which provides for the transport of mail and other time-sensitive cargo for smaller regions throughout the western U.S.

#### **RISE AVIATION**

Rise Aviation serves at the airport's fixed base operator providing both Jet A and 100LL fuel services 24 hours a day. The terminal building includes a pilot's lounge, a flight planning area, and meeting space. It also includes office space for airport administration.

#### THRUST FLIGHT

Thrust Flight is a provider of aircraft training services taking pilots from zero time and placing them into airline training programs. They also train aviation maintenance technicians to meet the growing workforce demand. Due to less congested airspace than the DFW area, Thrust Flight students at NTRA can complete their training 25-30% quicker and start working earlier. In the short time Thrust Flight has been located at NTRA, over 50 students have earned their wings to pilot commercial service airline flights. Thrust's student body consists of about 60% Grayson County residents, making it a valuable asset to the region for boosting career opportunities for local youth and young adults.

#### TEXAS GYRO

One of the airport's newest tenants, Texas Gyro is an avionics installation and repair facility that serves the high-performance piston and corporate aircraft markets as an authorized dealer of the industry's leading avionics manufacturers.

#### MONARCH AIR

Founded in 1986 by the Sawtelle family, Monarch Air was established in order to provide a professional and safe environment for individuals with a desire to learn to fly while being built on our Core Values such as Trust, Honesty and Faith. From the beginning, our focus on customer service garnered us a reputation in the industry for cultivating the very best of aviation professionals. Throughout the years we have branched out to offer all facets of aviation, including Aircraft Charter and Management, Sales and Acquisitions, and in-house Piston and Turbine Maintenance, all while continuing to provide skilled Flight Instruction and Aircraft Rental. - **Ray Sawtelle** 



"We are a family-owned enterprise that relies upon technology to remain current on every facet of every project. That is where general aviation literally serves as a force multiplier, by allowing our team to be in more places, in less time, with far greater efficiency. Having NTRA in Grayson County is a major asset to the community and to users like us. We are appreciative of the facilities and safe air transportation services provided at NTRA."

- Tom Johnson

## **AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS/RECENT PROJECTS**

The airport recently completed a Master Plan in 2022. This process helps establish existing and future aviation activity levels and identifies those airport improvements that will be necessary to accommodate future activity. To assist the airport in implementing initial phases of the master plan and increase airport revenue while ensuring the airport meets the needs of the region going forward, the Airport Board retained the on-call services of Jviation, a Woolpert Company, an aviation planning and engineering firm.

Maintaining an airport is a never-ending necessity. The net value of NTRA, which includes airfield pavements, lighting systems, navigational aids, air traffic control tower, and terminal, is estimated to exceed \$200M. In the last year, NTRA has addressed several maintenance and safety issues to protect the investments previously made by the county, TxDOT, and FAA.

- Extending fencing around the perimeter of the airport prevents wildlife and errant visitors from hazardously encroaching on the airfield.
- Electrical system repairs have been ongoing to keep the airfield lighting in operation until a new system can be installed. The new system will be designed and constructed through FYs 24 and 25. TxDOT's Airport Improvement Program will fund 90% of the costs to design and construct the new system.
- Utility infrastructure has been installed on the west side of the airfield to foster economic development initiatives and expansion to accommodate future aeronautical industries and services.
- Working with TxDOT, FAA, and Jviation, the airport is positioned to re-mark the airfield and change the runway headings. The heading change is necessary due to a variance in the magnetic declination.
- The Air Traffic Control Tower was assessed, and a grant application has been submitted to FAA for over a million dollars of upgrades and improvements that will better accommodate controllers and pilots.
- LRDC is slated for demolition. The area will be repurposed for general aviation hangar development.

Virtower, an airport operations tracking resource was installed to monitor airport operations including takeoffs, landings, and touch and go's. The system has functionality to geofence the airfield and provide data regarding the use of all pavements used by both based and itinerant aircraft. Data gained from Virtower will be beneficial when justifying grant requests for airport development projects and could be considered for federal airport classification.

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## **FINANCIAL CONDITIONS**

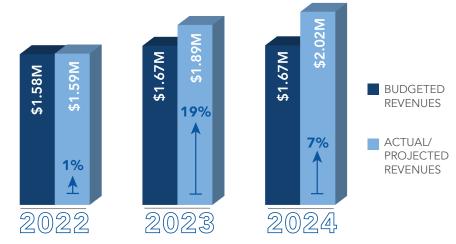
The focus of NTRA leadership is to ensure the airport operates in a self-sufficient manner, providing exceptional aviation services without costing the residents of Grayson County. It is a requirement of the federal government that NTRA operate as self-sufficiently as possible, receiving little or no direct support from local taxpayers. The revenues generated on the airport sufficiently cover the expenses required to operate and maintain facilities at NTRA. Grant funding offsets some of the maintenance costs and provides additional funding for capital improvement projects to improve, expand, and modernize airport facilities. Therefore, the airport uses no Grayson County general fund dollars to effectively manage the airport.

NTRA benefits from State and Federal grants, administered by TxDOT Aviation Division, successfully leveraging state and federal monies to better the local community.

YEAR	AIRPORT FUNDS	RAMP GRANT FUNDS	CAPITAL IMP. GRANT FUNDS	ANNUAL GRANT FUNDING	TOTAL ANNUAL
2021	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$100,000.00
2022	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$100,000.00
2023	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$100,000.00
2024	\$33,611.00	\$100,000.00	\$202,500.00	\$302,500.00	\$336,111.00
2025 *	\$410,632.00	\$100,000.00	\$3,595,677.00	\$3,695,677.00	\$4,106,309.00
5-YEAR TOTAL	\$594,243.00	\$350,000.00	\$3,798,177.00	\$4,148,177.00	\$4,742,420.00

\*GRANT FUNDING APPROVED AND PROGRAMMED FOR FY 2025





\*Revenue calculations conform to GASB 87 requirements

