

The Top 100 Busiest GA Airports

Airport Journals salute the General Aviation (GA) airports across the U.S. supporting the needs of private air transportation and the future of global leadership for our nation. We present to you the **Top 100 General Aviation Airports.**

Now more than ever before, America's GA airports are taking center stage. This elevated status is the direct result of commercial airlines' inability to sustain and meet the critical transportation needs of American business.

The age-old adage "time is money" succinctly describes the failure of commercial airlines to meet the demands of our country's business leaders. Have you traveled through GA airports and experienced the "real" time savings? Then you have experienced first-hand why business aviation plays a key role in developing the infrastructure of the future.

This data does not necessarily reflect an airport's ranking based upon retail fuel sales. This is an important distinction, because there are airports that were previously ranked in Airport Journals Top 100 Busiest GA Airports and declined in the ranking notwithstanding increasing GA retail fuel sales volume.

The Top 100 Airports are ranked solely upon itinerant general aviation operations. (NOTE: Flight training movements have been excluded from itinerant movement totals.)

These airports represent a diverse array of facilities throughout the continental U.S., and in many cases these top airports represent high-volume business aircraft locations such as:

- Van Nuys (VNY),
- Ft. Lauderdale Executive (FXE),
- Long Beach Airport (LGB) and
- Phoenix Deer Valley Airport (DVT)

In addition, other excellent GA airports, while not

making the Top 10 ranking, achieved Top 25 status in this year's survey of the Top 100, including:

- Dekalb-Peachtree Airport (PDK),
- Teterboro Airport (TEB) and
- Vero Beach Municipal Airport (VRB)

Within the Top 5, the first and second place rankings have remained unchanged for the last eight years. Notwithstanding slightly lower itinerant operations in 2008 when compared to 2006, Van Nuys (VNY, No. 1) and Daytona Beach (DAB, No. 2) have seen sustained growth from 2006 through 2008.

Two airports are new to the Top 10 this year. Kendall-Tamiami Executive Airport (TMB) vaulted 17 positions since 2006 from No. 21 in 2006 to No. 12 in 2007, and it currently sits in the No. 3 position. Richard Lloyd Jones Jr. Airport (RVS) has advanced 12 positions since 2006, moving from No. 17 in 2006 to No. 14 in 2007 to No. 5 in 2008.

Other Top 10 Airports shuffled their ranking in this year's analysis. Falcon Field Airport (FFZ) moved two positions from No. 8 in 2007 to No. 6 in 2008, and Boeing Field (BFI) advanced one place from No. 11 in 2007 to No. 10 in 2008.

Conversely, some airports achieved a different position in the rankings. The following airports, while well-positioned on the Top 100 Busiest GA airports list, changed their posting:

- Long Beach Airport (LGB) dropped four positions from No. 3 in 2007 to No. 7 in 2008

- Deer Valley Airport (DVT) moved down one notch from No. 7 in 2007 to No. 8 in 2008

- Dekalb/Peachtree Airport (PDK) fell seven positions and out of the Top 10 (from No. 5 in 2007 to No. 12 in 2008)

Other noteworthy standings

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Rank	FACILITY	2007 Itinerant General Aviation	2008 Itinerant General Aviation	% from 2007
1	UNY	248,764	258,155	4%
2	DAB	211,952	232,077	9%
3	TMB	124,859	139,528	11%
4	FXE	148,801	137,403	-8%
5	RVS	121,985	136,382	11%
6	FFZ	134,773	135,382	0%
7	LGB	154,744	133,576	-16%
8	DVT	135,527	133,150	-2%
9	APA	137,110	128,521	-7%
10	BFI	126,522	127,003	0%
11	MYF	121,088	124,079	2%
12	PDK	140,913	121,055	-16%
13	CRQ	132,111	113,781	-16%
14	SNA	131,257	113,763	-15%
15	TEB	123,799	108,493	-14%
16	SDL	119,984	107,351	-12%
17	SEE	119,525	103,667	-15%
18	ADS	100,734	102,286	2%
19	SFB	118,582	96,634	-23%
20	HPN	105,968	96,631	-10%
21	URB	80,673	94,422	15%
22	BED	80,448	88,113	9%
23	FRG	91,003	87,907	-4%
24	ISM	90,942	84,531	-8%
25	DWH	94,573	83,487	-13%
26	SAT	83,334	83,412	0%
27	EVB	60,183	82,634	27%
28	PRC	78,743	82,536	5%
29	MLB	83,846	82,376	-2%
30	APF	86,417	81,794	-6%
31	FPR	76,318	80,291	5%
32	OU	80,463	80,156	0%
33	GYR	84,039	78,263	-7%
34	CMA	77,591	77,974	0%

35	HIO	69,755	76,256	9%
36	TOA	84,411	75,896	-11%
37	CHD	85,217	75,280	-13%
38	PTK	87,868	75,097	-17%
39	PBI	83,608	74,388	-12%
40	FAT	76,318	73,707	-4%
41	SAC	79,328	73,525	-8%
42	OMN	79,114	73,328	-8%
43	MMU	85,739	73,058	-17%
44	DAL	91,934	72,731	-26%
45	FTW	59,410	72,334	18%
46	GKY	79,018	71,947	-10%
47	IWA	88,327	71,903	-23%
48	ORL	82,857	70,226	-18%
49	ANC	73,741	69,498	-6%
50	CRG	78,135	69,327	-13%
51	AUS	69,623	68,315	-2%
52	SMD	70,687	67,820	-4%
53	SRQ	81,393	67,721	-20%
54	FCM	59,283	67,632	12%
55	ICT	72,961	67,453	-8%
56	PAO	78,057	67,432	-16%
57	LVK	74,480	66,938	-11%
58	SQL	71,958	66,867	-8%
59	SUS	78,620	66,685	-18%
60	BJC	72,401	66,662	-9%
61	LAL	70,777	66,614	-6%
62	PIE	87,092	66,392	-31%
63	TIX	65,548	65,444	0%
64	ISP	73,903	64,483	-15%
65	PAE	61,512	64,429	5%
66	TUS	71,861	64,092	-12%
67	UGT	81,799	61,472	-33%
68	HWD	64,447	61,350	-5%

69	PWK	74,948	60,626	-24%
70	CNO	68,902	60,562	-14%
71	RYN	75,013	59,811	-25%
72	HWO	61,442	59,779	-3%
73	STS	73,756	59,189	-25%
74	SLC	65,785	59,176	-11%
75	APC	63,354	58,804	-8%
76	MRI	65,874	58,613	-12%
77	DPA	62,644	58,073	-8%
78	STP	63,986	56,057	-14%
79	LZU	60,276	55,686	-8%
80	PUB	42,951	55,676	23%
81	IAD	64,549	54,860	-18%
82	PNE	63,417	54,222	-17%
83	CDW	59,284	53,768	-10%
84	FTY	69,264	53,462	-30%
85	OPF	69,576	53,228	-31%
86	MER	13,796	53,175	74%
87	SIG	43,871	51,984	16%
88	RHU	53,453	51,620	-4%
89	CCR	52,060	50,915	-2%
90	RDU	58,675	50,378	-16%
91	SSF	50,219	50,243	0%
92	LAS	61,065	50,176	-22%
93	PWA	51,730	50,126	-3%
94	OAK	59,689	49,127	-21%
95	POC	45,190	48,727	7%
96	MDW	55,808	48,554	-15%
97	HEF	46,743	48,517	4%
98	SBA	52,905	48,007	-10%
99	LNS	51,117	47,980	-7%
100	BHM	57,037	47,878	-19%
TOTAL		8,357,132	7,892,114	-6%

Light Jets (VLJs) into the market in the recent years, look for more reshuffling of the Top 100 spots for 2009 and the years ahead. It will be interesting to see how this new breed of aircraft will affect GA activity levels throughout the country. ARGI will monitor these trends and report on changes as they occur.

Elsewhere in the array of the Top 100 Airports there is perceptible movement. The following four airports climbed a significant number of positions in this year's Top 100:

- New Smyrna Beach Municipal Airport (EVB) from No. 84 in 2007 to No. 27 in 2008

- Portland-Hillsboro Airport (HIO) from No. 65 in 2007 to No. 35 in 2008

- Fort Worth Meacham International Airport (FTW) from No. 86 in 2007 to No. 45 in 2008

- Flying Cloud Airport (FCM) from No. 88 in 2007 to No. 54 in 2008

At the other end of the spectrum, the following four airports dropped a significant number of positions in the 2008 Top 100:

- Dallas Love Field Airport (DAL) from No. 22 in 2007 to No. 44 in 2008

- Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport (IWA) from No. 25 in 2007 to No. 47 in 2008

- St Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) from No. 27 in 2007 to No. 62 in 2008

- North Las Vegas Airport (VGT) from No. 37 in 2007 to No. 67 in 2008

The following three airports should be applauded for vaulting their way into the Top 100 in 2008:

- Pueblo Memorial Airport (PUB) from No. 137 in 2007 to No. 80 in 2008

- Castle Airport (MER) from No. 424 in 2007 to No. 86 in 2008

- Fernando Luis Ribas Dominicci Airport (SIG) from No. 132 in 2007 to No. 87 in 2008

We would like to welcome the following airports to the Top 100 in 2008:

- Wiley Post Airport (PWA) from No. 101 in 2007 to No. 93 in 2008

- Brackett Field Airport (POC) from No. 124 in 2007 to No. 95 in 2008

- Manassas Regional Airport/Harry P. Davis Field (HEF) from No. 116 in 2007 to No. 97 in 2008

- Lancaster Airport (LNS) from No. 103 in 2007 to No. 99 in 2008

Airport Journals commissions Aviation Resource Group International (ARGI) to conduct this research and compile the data annually. ARGI is the leading information consulting resource for aviation, and by providing more "knowledge" about the top airports serving general aviation, the business and recreational aviation community will become more aware of those airports central to the growing success of the private/corporate aviation marketplace.

Once again, the reader should note that the following ranking is predicated upon "total" itinerant GA operations and does not necessarily reflect the ranking of an individual airport based upon retail fuel sales, another recognized metric for positioning the top GA airports.

This study is based upon FAA data recently available from the **Air Traffic Activity Data System (ATADS)** on the volume of aircraft operations at the busiest GA airports in the U.S. ✈️

If you have any questions or comments about the Top 100 Airports, please email them to Letters@AirportJournals.com.

IDENTIFICATIONS

1	Van Nuys Airport	VNY
2	Daytona Beach International Airport	DAB
3	Kendall-Tamiami Executive Airport	TMB
4	Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport	FXE
5	Richard Lloyd Jones Jr Airport	RVS
6	Falcon Field Airport	FFZ
7	Long Beach Airport (Daugherty Field)	LGB
8	Phoenix Deer Valley Airport	DVT
9	Centennial Airport	APA
10	Boeing Field/King County International Airport	BFI
11	Montgomery Field Airport	MYF
12	Dekalb-Peachtree Airport	PDK
13	Mc Clellan-Palomar Airport	CRQ
14	John Wayne-Orange County Airport	SNA
15	Teterboro Airport	TEB
16	Scottsdale Airport	SDL
17	Gillespie Field Airport	SEE
18	Addison Airport	ADS
19	Orlando Sanford International Airport	SFB
20	Westchester County Airport	HPN
21	Vero Beach Municipal Airport	VRB
22	Laurence G Hanscom Field Airport	BED
23	Republic Airport	FRG
24	Kissimmee Gateway Airport	ISM
25	David Wayne Hooks Memorial Airport	DWH

26	San Antonio International Airport	SAT
27	New Smyrna Beach Municipal Airport	EVB
28	Ernest A. Love Field Airport	PRC
29	Melbourne International Airport	MLB
30	Naples Municipal Airport	APF
31	St Lucie County International Airport	FPR
32	William P Hobby Airport	HOU
33	Phoenix Goodyear Airport	GYR
34	Camarillo Airport	CMA
35	Portland-Hillsboro Airport	HIO
36	Zamperini Field Airport	TOA
37	Chandler Municipal Airport	CHD
38	Oakland County International Airport	PTK
39	Palm Beach International Airport	PBI
40	Fresno Yosemite International Airport	FAT
41	Sacramento Executive Airport	SAC
42	Ormond Beach Municipal Airport	OMN
43	Morristown Municipal Airport	MMU
44	Dallas Love Field Airport	DAL
45	Fort Worth Meacham International Airport	FTW
46	Arlington Municipal Airport	GKY
47	Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport	IWA
48	Executive Airport	ORL
49	Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport	ANC
50	Craig Municipal Airport	CRG

51	Austin-Bergstrom International Airport	AUS
52	Santa Monica Municipal Airport	SMO
53	Sarasota/Bradenton International Airport	SRQ
54	Flying Cloud Airport	FCM
55	Wichita Mid-Continent Airport	ICT
56	Palo Alto Airport of Santa Clara County	PAO
57	Livermore Municipal Airport	LVK
58	San Carlos Airport	SQL
59	Spirit of St Louis Airport	SUS
60	Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport	BJC
61	Lakeland Linder Regional Airport	LAL
62	St Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport	PIE
63	Space Coast Regional Airport	TIX
64	Long Island Mac Arthur Airport	ISP
65	Snohomish County Airport (Paine Field)	PAE
66	Tucson International Airport	TUS
67	North Las Vegas Airport	VGT
68	Hayward Executive Airport	HWD
69	Chicago Executive Airport	PWK
70	Chino Airport	CNO
71	Ryan Field Airport	RYN
72	North Perry Airport	HWO
73	Charles M. Schulz - Sonoma County Airport	STS
74	Salt Lake City International Airport	SLC
75	Napa County Airport	APC

76	Merrill Field Airport	MRI
77	Dupage Airport	DPA
78	St. Paul Downtown Airport / Holman Field	STP
79	Gwinnett County Airport-Briscoe Field	LZU
80	Pueblo Memorial Airport	PUB
81	Washington Dulles International Airport	IAD
82	Northeast Philadelphia Airport	PNE
83	Essex County Airport	CDW
84	Fulton County Airport-Brown Field	FTY
85	Opa-Locka Executive Airport	OPF
86	Castle Airport	MER
87	Fernando Luis Ribas Dominicci Airport	SIG
88	Reid-Hillview Airport of Santa Clara County	RHV
89	Buchanan Field Airport	CCR
90	Raleigh-Durham International Airport	RDU
91	Stinson Municipal Airport	SSF
92	Mc Carran International Airport	LAS
93	Wiley Post Airport	PWA
94	Metropolitan Oakland International Airport	OAK
95	Brackett Field Airport	POC
96	Chicago Midway International Airport	MDW
97	Manassas Regional Airport/Harry P. Davis Field	HEF
98	Santa Barbara Municipal Airport	SBA
99	Lancaster Airport	LNS
100	Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport	BHM