

# Vero Beach Regional Airport



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AVIATION AND SPACEPORTS OFFICE

**Airport:** Vero Beach Regional Airport (VRB)

**City:** Vero Beach, Florida

**County:** Indian River County

**Owner:** City of Vero Beach

**Role:** General Aviation Airport



Located in the northwest portion of the Vero Beach city limits, Vero Beach Regional Airport serves all facets of general aviation. With its three runways, the longest of which is 7,314 feet, the airport can accommodate intercontinental GA business jet aircraft and many air carrier aircraft. The airport's terminal is ideal for serving local users as well as those visiting the area.



## Existing Facilities

Three runways service Vero Beach Regional Airport: runway 12R/30L, which is 7,314 feet long by 106 feet wide; runway 4/22, which is 4,974 feet long by 100 feet wide; and runway 12L/30R, which is 3,504 feet long by 75 feet wide. All three runways are paved with asphalt in good condition. Additionally, all three runways include medium intensity edge lights and precision approach path indicator lights. RNAV GPS approaches are available on runways 12R/30L and 4/22, while runway 12R/30L is also equipped for VOR approaches. There is an air traffic control tower at the airport that is open from 7:00am to 9:00pm, seven days a week. Additionally, the airport provides 165 tiedowns and over 100 covered parking spaces for aircraft. Vero Beach Regional's designated Airport Reference Code is D-II.

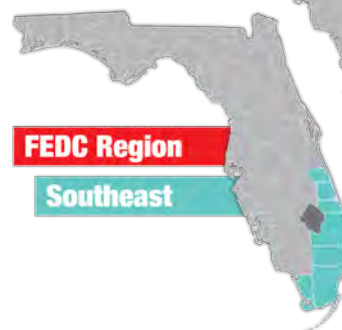
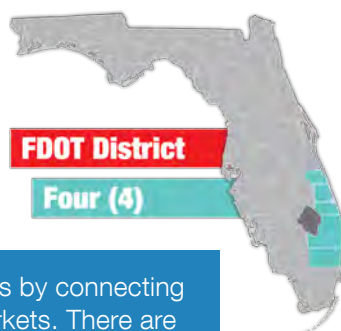
Four fixed base operators serve the GA needs of Vero Beach Regional Airport: Paris Air, Sun Aviation, Corporate Air, and Continental Jet Service. A number of capital improvement projects have recently been completed or are currently in the works. Some of the recently completed projects include rehabilitation of taxiways and rehabilitation of runway 4/22. Future improvement projects include rehabilitation of the remaining runways, aprons, and hangars. The 27,000-square foot main terminal building was also renovated and expanded in 2008.

Also located at the airport are FlightSafety International aviation school and Piper Aircraft, Inc. FlightSafety International's campus includes 15 buildings with modern classrooms and laboratories, as well as two aircraft aprons and multiple hangars. Piper Aircraft is a world leader in GA aircraft manufacturing whose headquarters are located at Vero Beach Regional Airport.

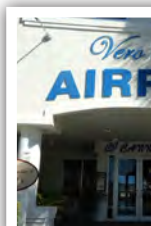
For more information, visit Vero Beach Regional Airport's Website at: <https://verobeachairport.org/>



## Airport Classification



Regional airports support regional economies by connecting communities to statewide and interstate markets. There are 492 Regional Asset airports nationwide and 30 within Florida, including Vero Beach Regional Airport. More information can be found in the Federal Aviation Administration's ASSET Studies at [https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning\\_capacity/ga\\_study/](https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/ga_study/).







Vero Beach Regional Airport is a rapidly growing GA facility with an expanding commercial service profile. In December of 2015, Elite Airways began offering twice-weekly nonstop flights to Newark Liberty International Airport, establishing commercial service at Vero Beach Regional for the first time since 1996. Elite has since added non-stop flights to Asheville, North Carolina; White Plains, New York; and Portland, Maine.

Through its four fixed base operators, the airport offers a full range of GA services, from flight training (including simulators) to charter flights and air taxis. Flight training plays a large role at Vero Beach Regional, accounting for about 40 percent of annual operations. Training activities are led by FlightSafety International, an aviation school with 15 buildings and 91 aircraft based at the airport.

A variety of businesses are located in and around Vero Beach Regional Airport. Chief among them is the Piper Aircraft Corporation, one of the world's leaders in manufacturing GA aircraft. The company has operated a manufacturing facility at the airport since the 1960s and continues to this day to be a leading employer and economic driver for the greater Vero Beach area. The airport also leases space to a significant number of retail and commercial businesses on its extensive property. These businesses include a restaurant, a brewery,

storage facilities, a bank, marine services, and more. Going forward, the airport plans to continue developing these commercial areas to expand its services in the future.

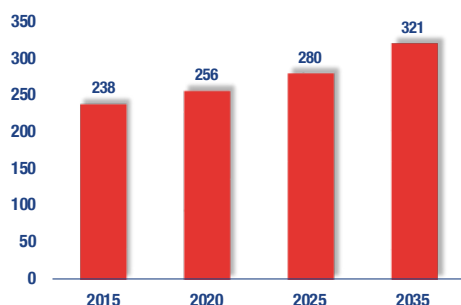
The airport's community outreach is highlighted every two years with the Vero Beach Air show, an event that draws 50,000 visitors and features dozens of static display aircraft as well as stunt demonstrations. In off years, the airport holds Aviation Day, a smaller, more informal open house-type event.



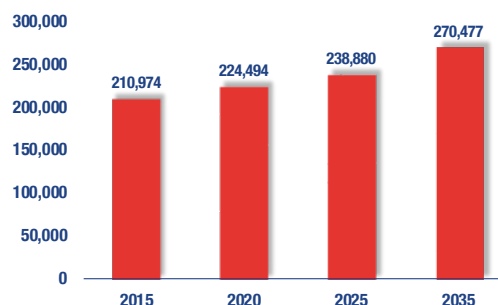
## Current and Forecast Demand

According to Florida Aviation System Plan data, there were 209 aircraft based at Vero Beach Regional Airport in 2014. In the same timeframe, there were 207,776 GA operations and 3,424 commercial operations. The airport's current Airport Reference Code (ARC) is D-II which is represented by aircraft such as the Gulfstream 350 and 450. The airport is seeking to expand its commercial service, with non-stop flights to several destinations currently offered by Elite Airways.

**Based Aircraft**



**General Aviation Operations**

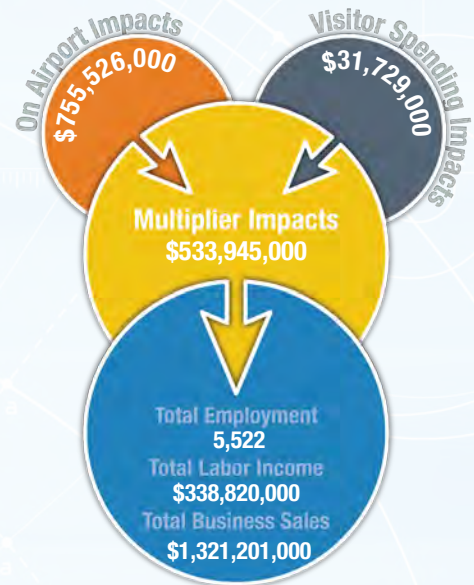




# Economic Impact

Vero Beach Regional Airport is located in Indian River County, just over one mile from downtown Vero Beach. The airport has three runways, with the longest runway measuring 7,314 feet. The airport serves all facets of general aviation, including intercontinental business jets and most air carrier aircraft.

The airport primarily supports corporate/business activity, air taxi/charter services, and flight training. The airport's proximity to the pristine shores of Vero Beach benefits the community's tourism industry. Piper Aircraft, a general aviation aircraft manufacturer, maintains a production facility at the airport that provides nearly 1,000 jobs. Many of Vero Beach's city utilities are located on airport property. The airport also hosts community events, such as the Vero Beach Air Show, which increase aviation education and promote the city and the airport. Two aviation schools located at the airport provide flight trainings and draw in foreign students whose local spending contributes to the community. Military and law enforcement aviation units also regularly use the airport for training operations.



## Other Airport Characteristics

Vero Beach Regional Airport completed its most recent master plan in 2016. Airport management identified flight training, corporate/business activity, and air taxi/charter services as the most important activities that occur at the airport, with an increasing focus on expanding commercial service. Important city utilities are also located on airport property, including several electrical power stations and water treatment facilities. Additionally, the majority of the City of Vero Beach's potable water comes from wells located on airport property.

## Current and Future System Service Requirements/Recommendations

The airport reports several ongoing and/or recently completed facility improvement activities, including the above-mentioned construction of an operations facility and new hangars, the addition of new security lights in 2007, upgrades to the airport security badging system and electric gates in 2008, purchase of a new ARFF vehicle in 2010, new LED taxiway lights on the entire airfield, and approach and transitional area obstruction removal in 2012. The airport currently serves medium to high levels of flight training, recreational/sport, tourism, corporate, and air charter activity in addition to business/recreational services. The analysis indicates that the airport is well positioned to continue serving these GA and commercial service demands throughout the planning period.

### Commercial Service Role



### General Aviation Airport Role



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AVIATION AND SPACEPORTS OFFICE  
[www.fdot.gov/aviation](http://www.fdot.gov/aviation)