

Job Flight from Worcester

Since 2002, the Worcester Regional Airport has seen consistent declines in business. Once the home of Delta, US Airways, American Eagle, and Pan Am, the airport now hosts no commercial airlines. US Airways ended service in March of 2003; the other airlines ended service in 2002. Today, general aviation, corporate, small and large aircraft charter, private flights, and training flights through the Amity Flight School are the only flights in Worcester. Below is a summary of the economic impact of job losses as a result of loss of commercial airline service at the Airport. The City, airlines, rental car services, Hudson News, the Federal Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and Swissport, the Airport's Fixed Base Operator (FBO) employed over 160 people in Worcester and added over \$4 million to the local economy through salaries. Today, the Airport is home to 42 jobs worth approximately \$1.7 million in annual salaries—a 75% loss of jobs and a 62% loss in salaries. Some businesses continue to operate at the Airport in the absence of commercial flights. However, all of these businesses have experienced changes since the end of commercial flights out of Worcester, and all (with the exception of the flight school) have had to eliminate jobs as a result. The loss of commercial air service has had a significant adverse economic impact on the City that is equivalent to the loss of a mid-size business.

Jobs Lost at the Worcester Airport Since 2001

Employer	Number of Jobs 2001/2002*	Jobs Remaining	Number of Jobs Lost	Estimated Annual Dollar Value of Lost Salaries
City and State				
Municipal (Airport):	25	17	8	\$261,000
Massport	6	5	1	\$50,000
City and State Total	31	22	9	\$311,000
Airlines				
Delta	8	0	8	\$224,000
US Airways	10	0	10	\$280,000
American Eagle	7	0	7	\$196,000
Pan Am	4	0	4	\$112,000
Airline Total	29	0	29	\$812,000
Airport Services				
Security TSA	19	0	19	\$551,000
FBO Swissport	38	13	25	\$625,000
Service Total	57	13	44	\$1,176,000
Car Rental				
Avis	15	1	14	\$252,000
Hertz**	12	2	10	\$180,000
National	9	0	9	\$194,000
Thrifty	6	2	4	\$88,000
Car Rental Total	42	5	37	\$714,000
Other				
Hudson News	3	0	3	\$60,000
Amity Flight School and Maintainence	2	2	0	\$0
Total	164	42	122	\$2,821,000
* US Airways ended service to Worcester in March of 2003. All other airlines ended service in 2002. Numbers presented are from the time of highest employment.				
** Estimate. Official data was not available at the time of this printing.				
Data Sources: Worcester Regional Airport, Swissport, Avis Rent-A-Car, Amity Flight School, Thrifty Car Rental, TSA				
Prepared by: Worcester Regional Research Bureau. Salary estimates are based on information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the TSA, the City Budget, Swissport, Avis Rent-A-Car, and Thrifty Car Rental, and the Worcester Regional Airport.				