



**PARTNERSHIP**  
for New York City

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**CONTACT:** Stefan Friedman

(646) 241-7786

**NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS FLYING HIGH  
WITH JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**

*JFK, LaGuardia and Newark Liberty Airports lead the way to economic prosperity in the region*

As New York metropolitan airports prepare for the Thanksgiving weekend and the busiest travel period of the year, Global Gateway Alliance and the Partnership for New York released a joint analysis today studying the extraordinary contributions that these airports make to the surrounding region (Analysis Below). The report found that over the last decade, the number of jobs created by New York metropolitan airports has increased by nearly 100 percent.

Taken together, JFK, LaGuardia and Newark Liberty airports provide nearly a half million jobs to the region, either directly or indirectly, up from 278,000 in 2004, the last year these numbers were studied and released by the Port Authority. These high-wage jobs support families in both New York and New Jersey and will continue to allow workers to grow and prosper.

In addition to job growth, the area airports are providing an economic boom for the entire region through its aviation operations, capital spending and tourism to the tune of \$63 billion in activity in 2012.

“These numbers confirm what we’ve long known to be true, New York’s metropolitan airports are incredible economic drivers,” said GGA Chairman Joseph J. Sitt. “When studies like this are released, it is clear to everyone the role the airports play in supporting the region economically. If we make the necessary investments in our airports and related infrastructure, we will continue to see amazing economic growth including creating thousands of new jobs.”

“Our regional airports are indispensable to economic growth and to New York’s status as a global business capital,” said Kathryn Wylde, President and CEO of the Partnership for New York City.

Americans and foreign travelers flock to the New York region year round, making it one of the world’s top tourist destinations. In fact, the analysis found that local airports service 1.3 million flights a year, including 280,000 international flights reaching 200 cities around the world. Last year, 19.5 million domestic and international visitors entered the region by air. During their visits these tourists spent over \$20 billion on shopping, lodging, meals, entertainment and local ground transportation. Again, these numbers far out-pace what was found in the last public study.

In addition, when it comes to handling air cargo, few airports compare to JFK, the seventh largest cargo airport in the country. The regional airport system handled more than two million tons of cargo last year, most of it

through JFK. More than 1,000 cargo companies are based at JFK. Within the New York region, cargo operations created \$10 billion in economic activity, resulting in over 54,000 jobs at an average wage of \$63,000.

“The impact of our three airports on the regional economy cannot be overstated. Their contribution to the region includes hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in spending,” said GGA Executive Director Steve Sigmund. “We look forward to working with stakeholders to address the major challenges that face these economic engines, so they can reach their full potential.”

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## **ABOUT GGA**

Global Gateway Alliance (GGA) was established to address the major challenges facing the metropolitan region’s airports and related infrastructure that, if left unaddressed, will serve as a major impediment to the long-term growth of New York City and surrounding areas. By harnessing the expertise of leaders in business, government, academia, labor and other sectors, we seek to tackle these challenges head-on and serve as the leading advocate in an effort to improve our airports and facilitate the continued growth of the region. For more information regarding the Global Gateway Alliance, please visit [www.globalgatewayalliance.org](http://www.globalgatewayalliance.org). Follow GGA on Twitter [@GGA\\_NYNJ](https://twitter.com/GGA_NYNJ) and ‘Like’ the organization on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/UsqxGw>.

GGA’s board of directors includes: **Joe Sitt** (Chairman), CEO, Thor Equities; **Stuart Appelbaum**, President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union; **Chris Giamo**, Regional President for TD Bank; **Dan Glickman** former Congressman and U.S. Agriculture Secretary; **David Hopkins**, Senior Director of Aviation at the New York City Economic Development Corporation; **Jared Kushner**, Owner of Kushner Properties and the New York Observer; **George Miranda**, Teamsters’ International Vice President; **Mitchell Moss**, Henry Hart Rice Professor of Urban Policy and Planning at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University; **William Rudin**, CEO of Rudin Management Company, Inc. and Chairman of ABNY; **Joseph Spinnato**, President of the Hotel Association of New York City; **Alvin S. Trenk**, Chairman and CEO of Air Pegasus Corp; **Peter Ward**, President of the Hotel Trades Council on New York; **Kathryn Wylde**, President of the Partnership for New York City, and **Tim Zagat**, Co-Founder and Co-Chair of Zagat Survey

## **ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP FOR NEW YORK CITY**

The Partnership for New York City’s mission is to engage the business community in efforts to advance the economy of New York City and maintain the city’s position as the center of world commerce, finance and innovation. Through the Partnership Fund for New York City, the Partnership contributes directly to projects that create jobs, improve economically distressed communities and stimulate new business creation.

# THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS

## Facts, Challenges and Solutions for Continued Growth

Access to efficient and reliable air transportation is key to the continued growth of New York's regional economy. The region's three high-volume airports, JFK, LaGuardia, and Newark Liberty, handle nearly 110 million passengers a year and employ over 70,000 people. In 2012, the airports' aviation operations, capital spending, and tourism resulted in \$63 billion in economic activity in the region and were responsible for 448,000 jobs. Those jobs total \$22.8 billion in wages averaging \$51,000, which is higher than 75% of all incomes in the United States.

### Jobs

Each of New York's metropolitan airports provides hundreds of thousands of jobs to the region, either directly or indirectly. In addition, these jobs have high average wages that support families throughout New York and New Jersey.

Overall, the airports create or support more than 448,000 jobs, with an airport by airport breakdown of 213,000 for JFK, 147,000 for Newark and 87,000 for LaGuardia.



Support **448,000** local jobs with  
an average wage of **\$51,000**

## Tourism

Tourists coming to the region overwhelmingly rely on area airports to provide them with transportation. Our local airports see 1.3 million flights a year, 280,000 of which are international, and reach over 200 cities around the world.

Last year, 19.5 million domestic and international visitors entered the region by air, providing a substantial boon to the regional economy. During their visits, these tourists spent over \$20 billion on shopping, lodging, meals, entertainment and local ground transportation which in total created 193,000 local jobs and represents a huge ancillary boost to the region.



Accommodate **19.5 million** tourists  
each year, creating **193,000** local jobs

## Air Cargo

In 2012, the regional airport system handled more than two million tons of cargo with the majority of it coming through JFK International Airport, the seventh largest cargo airport in the country. JFK's status as a Foreign-Trade Zone makes it an attractive destination for international businesses and encourages trade and economic growth through cargo transportation, as is evident by the 1,000 cargo companies that are based at JFK. Within the region, cargo operations created nearly \$10 billion in economic activity, resulting in over 54,000 jobs with an average wage of \$63,000.



Handle **2 million** tons of cargo each year,  
creating **54,000** local jobs

## Capital Spending

In 2012, Capital spending accounted for \$340 million of the economic impact generated by the airports, and more than 1,500 jobs. The Port Authority and the airlines' long term modernization efforts like the Central Terminal Building at LaGuardia, Terminal A at Newark, and runway and taxiway extensions and improvements have each created hundreds of construction jobs that have lasted for multiple years.

## Continuing the Growth

The FAA has embarked upon a series of procedural changes with projects such as NextGen, which is aimed at reducing delays and increasing air cargo capability. Since half to three-quarters of nationwide delays everyday originate in our regional airspace, NextGen is needed in New York first to have the most significant impact throughout the nation.

Infrastructure upgrades at JFK, (the recently completed Terminal 4 expansion and earlier projects at Terminal 5), EWR (Terminal C), and LGA (the upcoming Central Terminal Building project) are the type of upgrades our airports need to improve operations and increase the number of amenities and services available to passengers.

Further investment in infrastructure and improvements in operations are needed to reduce flight delays and streamline onsite traffic patterns, while improved transit access is necessary to provide business and leisure travelers with a one-seat ride to and from our airports. Now is the time to work together and transform the airports in order to provide the region with the facilities it both needs and deserves.

## Facts and Figures

<b><u>Economic Impact Summary for the NY/NJ Region</u></b>				
<i>In Million \$ 2012</i>				
<i>Except for job-years estimates</i>	<b>EWR</b>	<b>JFK</b>	<b>LGA</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Passenger Operating Impact				
Wages	\$3,567	\$5,153	\$2,438	<b>\$11,158</b>
Sales	\$10,062	\$14,325	\$6,903	<b>\$31,290</b>
Jobs	63,980	91,810	43,450	<b>199,240</b>
Visitor Economic Impact				
Wages	\$2,669	\$3,657	\$1,840	<b>\$8,167</b>
Sales	\$7,081	\$9,726	\$4,882	<b>\$21,690</b>
Jobs	62,849	86,528	43,174	<b>192,551</b>
Cargo Impacts				
Wages	\$1,262	\$2,133	\$17	<b>\$3,412</b>
Sales	\$3,487	\$6,338	\$38	<b>\$9,863</b>
Jobs	19,900	34,130	230	<b>54,260</b>
Capital Spending Impact				
Wages	\$21	\$53	\$12	<b>\$87</b>
Sales	\$82	\$209	\$48	<b>\$340</b>
Jobs	375	937	221	<b>1,533</b>
<b>Total Economic Impact</b>				
Wages	\$7,519	\$10,996	\$4,308	<b>\$22,823</b>
Sales	\$20,712	\$30,599	\$11,871	<b>\$63,182</b>
Jobs	147,104	213,405	87,075	<b>447,584</b>

**Direct Economic Impacts, Cargo and Passengers***In Million 2012\$*

<b>Cargo</b>	<b>EWR</b>	<b>JFK</b>	<b>LGA</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Jobs	10,129	17,159	128	27,415
Wages (millions)	\$695	\$1,021	\$10	\$1,725
Sales (millions)	\$2,129	\$2,722	\$22	\$4,873
<b>Passengers</b>	<b>EWR</b>	<b>JFK</b>	<b>LGA</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Jobs	34,742	54,839	17,689	107,270
Wages (millions)	\$2,033	\$3,142	\$1,019	\$6,194
Sales (millions)	\$6,988	\$10,539	\$3,466	\$20,993
<b>Total</b>	<b>EWR</b>	<b>JFK</b>	<b>LGA</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Jobs	44,871	71,998	17,817	134,686
Wages (millions)	\$2,728	\$4,163	\$1,029	\$7,920
Sales (millions)	\$9,118	\$13,260	\$3,488	\$25,866

**Standardized Economic Impact Summary for the NY/NJ Region***In Million \$ 2012*

	<b>EWR</b>	<b>JFK</b>	<b>LGA</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Impact of 1,000,000 Total				
Passengers				
Wages	\$105	\$105	\$95	\$102
Sales	\$296	\$291	\$269	\$287
Jobs	1,881	1,863	1,690	1,828
Impact of 1,000,000 Total				
Visitors				
Wages	\$427	\$414	\$412	\$418
Sales	\$1,133	\$1,101	\$1,092	\$1,109
Jobs	10,059	9,795	9,653	9,847
Impact per 1,000 Short Tons				
Wages	\$1.1	\$1.1	\$0.6	\$1.1
Sales	\$3.2	\$3.3	\$1.3	\$3.3
Jobs	\$18.1	\$18.0	\$7.9	\$17.9
Impact of \$100 million of capital spending				
Wages	\$7	\$36	\$8	\$14
Sales	\$27	\$142	\$30	\$56
Jobs	123	637	139	251

*(All three tables are courtesy of the Port Authority of NY & NJ)*