LAX at a Glance: Economic Output & Job Outreach

Los Angeles World Airports is the City of Los Angeles’ Department of Airports, which owns and operates Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Van Nuys Airport (VNY), and aviation-related property in Palmdale. It is one of three “proprietary departments” of the City of Los Angeles, along with the Port of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, which do not draw any funds from the city’s tax revenue.

LAX is the second-busiest airport in the nation and fourth-busiest in the world based on the number of passengers flying into, out of, and through the airport. In 2019, LAX served more than 88 million guests. More than 50,000 employees work in and around LAX to provide goods and services around the airport, while the economic activity generated by the airport feeds hundreds of thousands of jobs throughout the Southern California region.

Economic Activity from Los Angeles Tourism

In 2018, the City of Los Angeles hosted more than 50 million total visitors, setting new records for domestic and international tourism. The city hosted an estimated 42.5 million domestic visitors (3 percent increase) and 7.5 million international visitors (4 percent increase).

Tourism from Mexico in 2018 scored its highest total ever with 1.8 million visitors, a 4 percent increase. China recorded an all-time high 1.2 million visitors, making Los Angeles the number one ranked U.S. city for Chinese travelers (6.9 percent increase, the largest net gain among all international markets). Other international markets recording their highest tourism totals ever in 2018 include: Canada with 780,000 (4.5 percent increase); U.K. with 382,000 (3 percent increase); Japan with 349,000 (2.5 percent increase); Scandinavia with 190,000 (3.9 percent increase); and India with 130,000 (5.1 percent increase).

In 2018, LAX helped support Los Angeles tourism, including an average of more than 547,000 jobs in the Leisure & Hospitality sector, one of the largest in L.A. County. Of the 11 major super sectors in the county, the Leisure & Hospitality sector in 2018 generated the largest year-over-year increase in new jobs with 22,996 (4.4 percent increase). These dollars are used to fund local fire, police as well as cultural and recreational services.

Airport Concessionaire Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE)

LAWA makes efforts to reflect the diversity of the Los Angeles region throughout LAX, with concessions in its terminals being no exception. Officials have worked to include Airport Concessionaire Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (ACDBEs) among the businesses operating in around LAX.

As of October 2019, 43 ACDBE firms operate in and around LAX.

- Of all revenue collected from non-car rental concessions, 22.93 percent of that revenue is counted as ACDBE revenue. This figure passes LAWA’s goal of 19.80 percent.
- Of all revenue collected from car rental concessions, 4.16 percent of that revenue is counted as ACDBE revenue.

ACDBEs will play an important part of the concessionaire selection at the forthcoming Midfield Satellite Concourse (MSC). Certain spaces in the MSC will be 100 percent ACDBE-operated, meaning that an ACDBE serves as the sole contracted entity within that space, as opposed to serving as a minority partner with, or subcontractor to, a non-ACDBE business.

- 23 MSC spaces will include ACDBE participation
- 12 ACDBE partners operating in MSC
- 3 local Los Angeles brands

Updated as of April 2020
In order to maximize access to business and job opportunities, ensuring that local, diverse communities benefit from LAWA’s investments, and setting the global airport standard for public corporate social responsibility, LAWA officials have worked to include local residents and businesses—many from historically disadvantaged backgrounds—in the jobs and positions created by LAX’s ongoing $14-billion modernization program. This includes projects like the LAX Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP), the Midfield Satellite Concourse and other projects in support of the program.

Here is a sample of programs that have helped expand opportunities at LAX to the greater community.

**BuildLAX**

The BuildLAX program started in August 2019, and assists small contracting business by educating them about the bidding and contracting processes governing opportunities at LAX. The program is administered by LAWA’s Business, Jobs and Social Responsibility team, and is taught by professionals who work directly with LAWA.

- Number of graduated contracting businesses: 17
- Businesses now pre-qualified with prime contractors: 10
- Businesses now pre-qualified with 2 or more prime contractors: 3
- Percentage of businesses owned by minorities or women: 95

**First Source Hiring Program**

The First Source Hiring Program is located at the JobsAtLAX.org website, and serves as a valuable resource for connecting job seekers with LAX-based employers. Applicants can upload resumes, apply for jobs and receive alerts about jobs and upcoming career-building events.

- Job seekers using JobsAtLAX.org: 180,413
- Resumes posted: 53,893
- Job seeker accounts: 92,379
- Jobs posted: 22,693

Figures are current as of September 2019.

**Landside Access Modernization Program Inclusivity Requirements**

The Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP) is LAWA’s multi-billion dollar capital improvement effort to enrich passenger experience, relieve traffic congestion, and enhance LAX’s status as a world-class airport. Key components of LAMP include an Automated People Mover (APM), a Consolidated Rent-A-Car (ConRAC) Facility, an Intermodal Transportation Facility-West (ITF-W), and the LAWA Utilities & LAMP Enabling Projects (LULEP).

LAWA’s core values of diversity and inclusion are expected commitments on all LAWA projects. To maximize benefit to the local economy and communities, LAWA projects include local hiring and business subcontracting requirements.

- All LAWA construction projects are subject to the local hiring and labor standards established under the LAWA Project Labor Agreement (PLA). The PLA requires that each project be built using a minimum of 30 percent local construction labor.
- LAWA projects are also required to award subcontracts to qualified local, small and disabled veteran-owned business enterprises over the life of the project.
- With a project value of approximately $4.9 billion, the APM project alone has committed to spend over $220 million with local, small, and disabled veteran-owned firms.
- To date, in the first two years of the LAMP program, 1,856 local construction workers have earned $21 million in wages, at an average hourly wage of $220.

**HireLAX**

The HireLAX Apprenticeship Readiness Program is a unique workforce development program that offers free, comprehensive training for people who are considering a career in construction. The program, now in its third year, has prepared its graduates to work on projects building the future of LAX. The program is a partnership between LAWA, Los Angeles Southwest College and the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council. It is administered by the Parsons Corporation, with additional support services provided by the County of Los Angeles and the City of Los Angeles at their America’s Job Centers and WorkSource/YouthSource Centers. Nonprofits Fintridge Center, 2nd Call, and the County of Los Angeles and City of Los Angeles.

- Total Graduates: 172
- LAX Job Placements: 128
- Cohorts (since 2017): 6
- Demographic information:
  - 23.3 percent of graduates are female
  - 54.1 percent identify as African American
  - 38.4 percent identify as Hispanic/Latino
  - 49.4 percent of graduates come from the program’s Impact Area (communities immediately adjacent to the airport)
  - 37.8 percent of graduates had some form of prior involvement with the criminal justice system

**Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA)** is the City of Los Angeles department that runs LAX. Visit personnel.lacity.org

**Federal government agencies that operate at LAX** (Federal Aviation Administration, the Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and more). Visit usajobs.gov

Jobs@LAX is a website that lists jobs from more than 40 airport employers (Hertz, Rent-a-car, American Airlines, and more). Visit jobsatlax.org

For information about contracting opportunities, visit lawa.org/lawa-businesses/lawa-contracting-process