Alaskan Region Aviation Fact Sheet

Alaska’s 586,412 square miles of land and 2,427,971 square miles of airspace are served by:

3 Flight Standards district offices 8 FAA control towers and 5 military towers
2 certificate management offices 2 terminal radar approach control facilities
1 aircraft certification office 1 air route traffic control center
146 full time aviation weather reporting stations 17 Flight Service Stations (1.58M activities)
227 aviation weather camera sites (over 2M hits) 1 commercial space port

Pilots, Mechanics, & Aircraft:
There are 7,933 active pilots, 2,801 airframe and power plant mechanics of which 750 have inspection authorizations, and 9,346 registered aircraft in Alaska.

Airports:
Alaska has 400 public use airports, 282 land-based, 4 heliports (only public use listed this year), 114 seaplane bases, and approximately 747 recorded landing areas (private, public, and military) total. Of course pilots land on many of the thousands of lakes and gravel bars across the state where no constructed facility exists.

Air Commerce
The number of enplanements (4.8 million) in Alaska is 6.5 times the state population compared to 2.4 times the U.S. population for all states. There are 306 certified air carriers in Alaska providing scheduled and on-demand services.

Seaplanes:
Lake Hood in Anchorage is the world’s largest and busiest seaplane base and the only seaplane base with primary airport status in the U.S. In 2015 it accommodated an average of 197 daily takeoffs and landings with nearly 600 on peak summer days. There were approximately 72,000 operations in 2014, when combined with the Lake Hood gravel strip. Alaska has the most seaplane bases in the country – 114

Air Traffic Control Tower Operations in (fiscal year) 2015:
Ted Stevens – Anchorage: 290,802 Bethel: 98,341
Lake Hood: 72,033 Kenai: 46,458
Fairbanks: 123,531 King Salmon: 26,660
Juneau: 112,515 Kodiak: 45,715
Merrill Field: 123,538

Airport Improvement:
In fiscal year 2015, the FAA Alaskan Region distributed $201.7 million in 38 Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants to State and other “local” airport sponsors. Since 1982 the AIP has provided over $4.1 billion for airport construction, development, and planning in Alaska. This funding was provided via approximately 1,524 AIP grants.