



2050 Forecasts for Aviation Demand

Aviation plays a critical role for people and businesses in the growing central Puget Sound region. Along with the region's population and job growth, air passenger traffic and cargo volumes have reached record levels and are expected to increase.

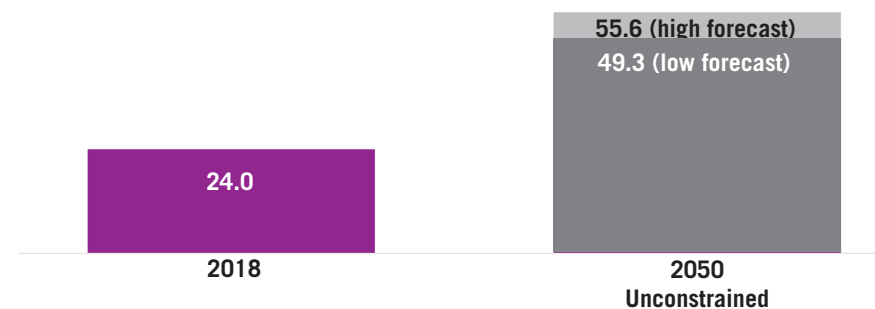
PSRC is leading a Regional Aviation Baseline Study to provide a clear picture of the aviation activities and needs in the region and set the stage for future planning efforts. As part of this study, PSRC has released forecasts of unconstrained demand for commercial aviation, air cargo and general aviation.

COMMERCIAL AVIATION DEMAND FORECAST

Regional demand for commercial aviation, representing scheduled passenger service, is closely tied to national economic trends as well as regional economic and demographic trends. Recent population, employment and income growth in the region is driving aviation demand and this trend is expected to continue. In addition, the region is an expanding hub for connections to Asia, further increasing demand for flights.

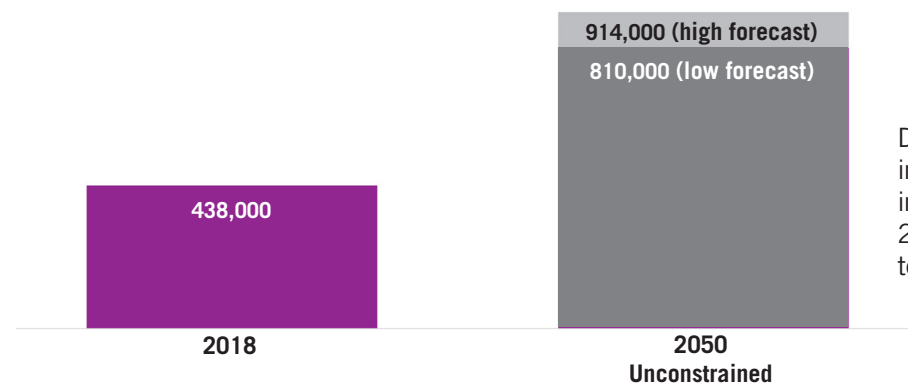


Enplanements in the Central Puget Sound Region (millions)



Regional demand for enplanements (passengers boarding for departure) is expected to grow from 24.0 million in 2018 to between 49.3 million and 55.6 million by 2050. This reflects an increase of between 105% to 132%.

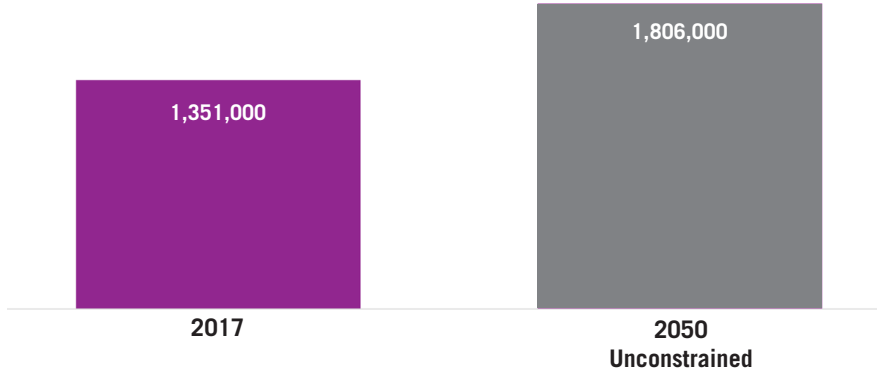
Operations in the Central Puget Sound Region



Demand for operations (takeoffs and landings) in the region is expected to grow from 438,000 in 2018 to between 810,000 and 914,000 by 2050. This reflects an increase of between 85% to 109%.

GENERAL AVIATION DEMAND FORECAST

General Aviation Operations in the Central Puget Sound Region



General aviation encompasses aviation activities for business, flight instruction, medical, emergency, law enforcement, recreation, and tourism. Recreational flights have seen a gradual decline for decades nationally, due to increasing costs, competition from other activities, and lower commercial airfares while business and for profit aviation are forecast to increase.

Demand for general aviation operations is expected to grow from 1,351,000 in 2017 to 1,806,000 by 2050, an increase of 34%.

AIR CARGO DEMAND FORECAST

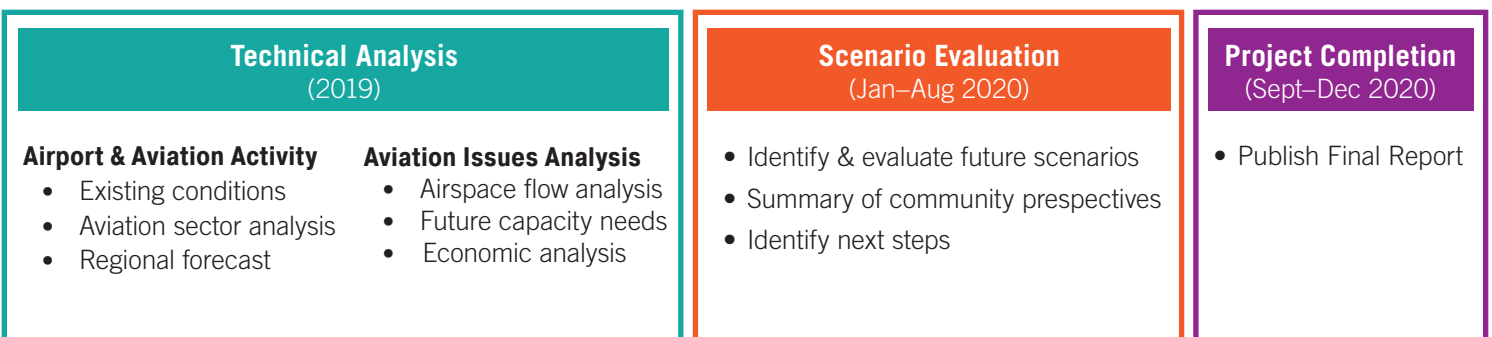
Commercial Air Cargo Handled in the Central Puget Sound Region (metric tons)



Air cargo includes freight and mail carried in the lower hold of passenger aircraft as well as cargo on dedicated freighters. Globalization and e-commerce are international trends that are driving dramatic air cargo growth. Strong state exports and increasing international flights are also driving regional air cargo growth.

Demand for regional air cargo capacity is expected to grow from 552,000 metric tons in 2018 to 1,300,000 by 2050, an increase of 136%.

TIMELINE



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Visit psrc.org/aviation-baseline-study to learn more and sign up for email updates.