

## Quick Take

Air cargo is characterized by time-sensitive, high-value, low-weight shipments. Items such as electronics, high-fashion clothing, seafood and fresh flowers are typically shipped by air. Additionally, urgent business documents, medical equipment, and emergency replacement parts and products are transported by plane.

## Significance:

North Texas relies heavily on aviation facilities to sustain growth and economic prosperity. Through connectivity to global markets, more than 400 aviation facilities provide economic development opportunities, the ability to engage in business activities related to aviation and the movement of cargo, as well as leisure and tourism opportunities throughout the world. The region's airports serve as a non-conventional inland port system, providing global access and economic growth.

## Quick Fact:

**\$6.4 trillion**

The value of goods shipped internationally by air each year.

## Air Cargo: Vital Part of North Texas Economy

Despite being the largest metropolitan area in the nation without access to a water port, North Texas is a leader in global and domestic trade. The region's location along one of the nation's major trade corridors provides the freight industry access to a variety of transportation modes for moving goods. This access allows for the timely and efficient delivery of goods, helping to reduce costs and increase savings for the region's consumers. Air cargo is one component of the region's comprehensive freight system. In 2013, North Texas airports processed 941,196 metric tons of cargo. The region's success in air cargo is due to:

- 1) Major distribution hubs for FedEx and UPS
- 2) Alliance Airport's status as the nation's top Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) for value of foreign merchandise imported
- 3) A large network of regional general aviation airports, including 20 air cargo providers and three major air cargo airports

## Inside the Numbers

### Average Value of Freight per Metric Ton



### 2013 US Air Cargo Airport Rankings

Rank	City	Total Cargo (metric tons)
1.	Memphis, TN	4,137,938
2.	Anchorage, AK	2,418,762
3.	Louisville, KY	2,216,079
4.	Miami, FL	1,945,013
5.	Los Angeles, CA	1,744,101
6.	Chicago, IL	1,527,655
7.	New York, NY	1,286,561
8.	Indianapolis, IN	991,953
9.	<b>Dallas-Fort Worth, TX</b>	<b>941,196</b>
10.	Newark, NJ	649,421

Sources: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Airports Council International

Shipping cargo by air is essential for the economic growth in a region without access to a water port, as it provides shippers the ability to reach inland markets more quickly and efficiently. Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, Alliance Airport, and Love Field benefit the region's economy by providing scheduled air cargo operations. Several of the region's general aviation airports aid businesses by allowing shippers to provide critical just-in-time cargo shipments to their customers. While the major cargo airports provide most of the region's air cargo service, the smaller general aviation airports make the seamless flow of goods to and from the region possible.

## North Texas' Air Shipments to and from the World

International air cargo shipments play a vital role in the world's economy. Fifty million metric tons of cargo is transported by air each year (about 140,000 metric tons daily). The annual value of these goods is \$6.4 trillion – or 35 percent of the value of goods traded internationally. International air freight in North Texas serves as a major gateway for air cargo to Asia, with 48 percent of international air cargo flying on trans-Pacific routes to and from Dallas-Fort Worth. This growth is expected to continue in the future, with Boeing predicting air cargo operations between North America and Asia will grow 6 percent per year by 2032.



Source: DFW International Airport

### Foreign Trade Zones (FTZ)

The federal government created foreign trade zones in 1934 to provide an incentive for the US to trade its goods internationally. Foreign goods admitted to FTZs are not immediately subject to customs duties or excise taxes. Firms may defer payment of duties until goods are delivered to their destinations.

FTZ is one of the top such zones in the nation. In one category, value of foreign goods imported, it has been ranked No.1 for four out of the last five years.

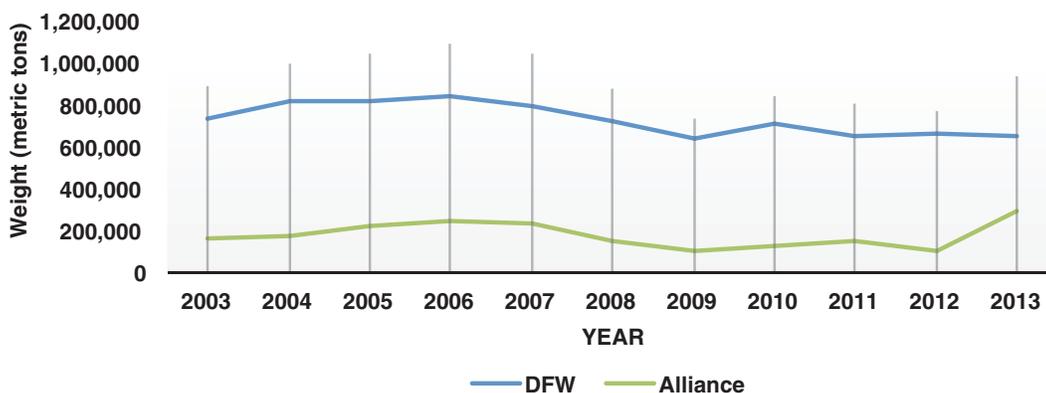
### AllianceTexas

Within the Alliance Global Logistics Hub, the 9,600-acre

### DFW International Airport

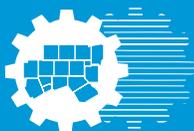
At DFW Airport, 2,500 acres are designated as an FTZ. This includes a 21-acre business park north of State Highway 114 and two cargo distribution centers with direct airport ramp access.

## Air Cargo Processed in North Texas



DFW Airport and Alliance Airport combine to make the region one of the nation's leaders in air cargo shipments.

Sources: DFW Airport, AllianceTexas



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