McConnell Air Force Base

McConnell Air Force Base is a unique Total Force Installation consisting of the 22nd Air Refueling Wing (Active Duty), the 931st Air Refueling Wing (Reserve), and the 184th Intelligence Wing (Air National Guard). All three wings and their community partners work together to form Team McConnell.

The KC-135 Stratotanker has delivered strategic aerial refueling capabilities since 1956. Team McConnell received its first KC-135 in 1971 and has supplied fuel to the fight in support of every war and conflict, from Cold War deterrence to post-9/11 air superiority.

Today, Team McConnell is on the leading edge of the Air Force by leading integration and operations for the newest addition to the Air Force’s strategic arsenal, the KC-46A Pegasus.

The KC-46 will serve alongside the KC-135 for years to come, supplying critical aerial refueling, airlift, and aeromedical evacuation capabilities for America’s military and its allies around the world at a moment’s notice.

Economic Impact

Team McConnell’s impact extends beyond the boundaries of mission and well into the economic health of the greater-Wichita area economy.

Celebrating this robust community connection, Team McConnell opened its gates to the community for the first time in six years for the 2018 Frontiers in Flight Open House and Air Show, which brought over 70 aircraft from all across the nation, enhanced private-public partnerships, and showcased the Air Force mission to more than 110 thousand visitors.

The support of our Midwestern neighbors is unrivaled across the Air Force. Team McConnell is grateful to have relationships that extend beyond our gates into a community that is committed to serving our Airmen and their families.
Another measure of economic significance is the number of indirect jobs created. These are the additional retail, service, wholesale, and construction jobs that exist in the community because of the base. An estimated 2,469 of these secondary jobs were sustained in FY18. As a result of the payroll earnings of these secondary jobs, McConnell AFB, to include the 22 ARW, 184 IW, and 931 ARW, generated an estimated additional $114.6 million in indirect payroll earnings.

Military and civilian employees at McConnell AFB, to include the 22 ARW, 184 IW, and 931 ARW, earned approximately $365.8 million for use in the local area during FY18. An additional $136.8 million was spent for base operations support, military construction and health care.

The total impact on the local economy of McConnell AFB and its tenants for FY18 was $617.2 million, within a 50-mile radius of the base.