

# **Analyzing the challenges of the growth in the air transportation system through the Covid Pandemic and support from collegiate aviation programs**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The air transportation industry was experiencing massive growth across the globe before the Covid pandemic. At that time future projections from major forecasting indicators, such as the Boeing Global Forecast and Airbus Market Forecast, predicted a greater than 4% average yearly growth rate over the next twenty years. The Federal Aviation Administration also predicted higher than average growth rates in the United States. The Global Covid pandemic brought major cut backs and losses to the industry. In 2022 the air transportation industry is bouncing back. With the increase in aircraft purchases, comes the need for thousands of new pilots, managers, cabin crewmembers, and maintenance technicians. Currently, collegiate aviation is one of the primary producers of qualified candidates in the aviation industry. This paper analyzes the projected growth to the air transportation industry before and after the Covid Pandemic and evaluates the status of collegiate aviation programs in supporting that growth worldwide.

Keywords: Collegiate Aviation, Air Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Pilot Shortage