

How does society view general aviation?

Questions/Key Points	Notes
<p>GA includes all aviation operations outside of airlines.</p> <p>Because flight training is conducted using GA aircraft, GA is very necessary.</p> <p>People seem to hate small local airports, but their voices are loud and don't represent the majority. Most people don't care (and many don't even know that their local airport even exists)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In general <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.aopa.org/-/media/files/aopa/home/advocacy/what_ga.pdf ○ It's pretty much everything outside of airlines ○ GA has a bad reputation for being expensive, and having a higher accident rate than airlines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Yes, it's expensive, but not as much as you might think. Many middle class people can afford it. ■ Yes, the accident rate is higher because pilots are less experienced/less regulated, but it's still very safe ■ GA maintains many older aircraft from WWI and WWII ● Flight training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Every person who wants to become a pilot must do it through GA ○ Therefore, a lot of GA is focused on flight training as a pathway to becoming an airline pilot, but not all of it ● Local airports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.mercatus.org/system/files/dourado-airport-noise-mop-v1.pdf ○ Airports are often subject to noise complaints by annoyed NIMBYs who are disproportionately represented ○ Governments then create noise abatement restrictions that ultimately harm pilots and others involved with GA while not even really decreasing noise or complaints ○ People will still complain even when pilots are following regulations. ○ The general attitude is that it's a waste of resources/government funding, it's bad for residents, etc. ○ https://www.airspacemag.com/flight-today/day-shut-down-meigs-field-180952788/ ○ Mayor Richard M. Daley ordered Meigs Field (Chicago) to be closed, going against the FAA ○ Bulldozed the runway and stranded a bunch of airplanes there, which had to be evacuated from a taxiway ○ Many GA airports were built as part of the New Deal and also after WWII when GA became very popular ● AOPA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.aopa.org/about ○ Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association ○ Organization that deals with pretty much everything GA ○ Want to maintain people's "freedom to fly" ○ Often involved in lobbying the FAA and other regulatory agencies ○ Interested in safety, regulations, flight training, medical, etc
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary</p> <p>GA is probably the most misunderstood aspect of aviation today. People tend to have negative perceptions of it because they are misinformed, and generally only hear about it when there are accidents. However, it is a necessary part of the greater aviation industry.</p>	

Essential Question:

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