

VALDOSTA REGIONAL AIRPORT

Title VI Plan

JANUARY 27, 2025

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Valdosta Regional Airport Title VI Plan

1. Title VI Policy Statement¹

The Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority (hereafter 'the Authority') who operates Valdosta Regional Airport (VLD) assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency (LEP)), or age, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (PL 100.259), Section 520 of the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, and related authorities (hereafter, "Title VI and related requirements"), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) funding. Title VI also prohibits retaliation for asserting or otherwise participating in claims of discrimination.

The Authority further assures every effort will be made to ensure nondiscrimination in all of its programs and activities, whether those programs are federally funded or not. The Authority agrees, among other things, to understand the communities surrounding or in the flight path, as well as customers that use the airport. Anytime communities may be impacted by programs or activities the Authority will take action to involve them and the general public in the decision-making process.

The Authority requires nondiscrimination assurances, as prescribed by FAA, from each tenant, contractor, and concessionaire providing an activity, service, or facility at the airport. Assurances must be included in any related lease, contract, or franchise agreement between the Authority and each tenant, contractor, and concessionaire, as well as in any similar agreements with their own sub-tenants and sub-contractors.

Daniel Williams, available at (229)-563-4877 and ops@flyvaldosta.com, is responsible for overseeing the Airport Sponsor's compliance with Title VI and the point of contact for all airport Title VI matters and related responsibilities, including those required by 49 CFR Part 21.

7-Hood

Signature
Timothy Hood

Airport Manager

September 30, 2024

Effective Date

September 30, 2027

3-Year Expiration Date

¹ This policy statement will be translated into languages other than English, upon request and based on patron and local language demographics.

2. Administration

The **Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority** has reviewed and adopted this Title VI Plan for **Valdosta Regional Airport**. This plan will be updated no less than once every 3 years. The plan will not be re-adopted following minor changes, such as updating the Airport Manager's or Coordinator's name. Significant revisions to our policies or federal guidelines may warrant re-adoption by the Authority and resubmittal to FAA.

In addition to the Coordinator and airport sponsor's leadership, the following people also assist with our Title VI program requirements:

Staff Supporting Title VI Program Airport Sponsor Program / Office	
Samantha Sayre	Alt ASC/Admin
Tina Castleberry	Fiscal Officer

Source: Airport staff

The Authority has the following airport program sub-recipients:

	Sub-Recipients	
None		
Source: Airport staff		

As of the date of this plan, Authority has the following pending applications for Federal financial assistance:

Federal Source	Grant Number	Amount
FAA	TBD RSA Overrun (des, con)	\$477,000
FAA	TBD Misc Drainage (des,	\$238,500
	video)	
FAA	TBD GA Terminal (rebid, con)	\$3,491,250
FAA	TBD Obstruction Removal	\$190,000
	(Land or Avigation Easement)	
FAA	TBD GA Apron (con)	\$2,328,305
FAA	TBD Obstruction Rem (con)	\$450,000
FAA	TBD Procure ARFF Vehicle	\$650,000
FAA	TBD Misc Drainage (con)	\$1,291,263

Source: Airport staff

The **Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority** sub-recipients have the following pending applications for Federal financial assistance (either directly from the FAA, or passed through the State DOT):

	Federal Source	Grant Number	Amount
None			

Source: Airport staff

Updated information for pending and awarded grant applications will be available through the following methods:

Federal Source	Grant Award Information Available at:
FAA AIP	https://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/
Valdosta Regional Airport	https://flyvaldosta.com

3. Grant and Procurement Assurances

49 CFR § 21.7 (a)(1); 49 CFR Part 21 Appendix C (b)

The Authority will complete standard grant assurances for Title VI and related requirements, in the form prescribed by FAA. See https://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/grant_assurances/#current-assurances.

Clauses/Covenants

- a. All contracts, leases, deeds, licenses, permits, and other similar instruments, must contain the contractual requirements and clauses, in the form prescribed by FAA. See https://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/procurement/federal_contract_provisions/. Note that unlike many other clauses, Civil Rights clauses are required in all contracts. Note also special clauses that are required for certain types of contracts, such as land acquisition.
- b. **The Authority** requires, Civil Rights clauses to be included in solicitations and contracts for all subcontractors, subleases, and any other agreements.

Description of Oversight Methods for Subcontracts

Subcontract template must be used in all subcontracts related to the airport program. Subcontracts are audited by the Procurement Dept. to verify they include the template language, for not less than 10 percent of contractors each year.

4. Title VI Coordinator Responsibilities

The Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that they and other staff supporting the Title VI program are trained in Title VI requirements. Essential training topics include:

- Basic Title VI requirements
- Airport language assistance resources and practices
- Collecting and assessing demographic data
- Reporting Title VI complaints and other required FAA notifications.

See Training Section for more information for expected training for all staff.

Among other responsibilities, the Coordinator:

- Proactively ensures that the Airport Sponsor is in compliance with nondiscrimination requirements of Title VI and reports to the Authority's leadership on the status of Title VI compliances.
- Responds promptly to requests by FAA for data and records and for the scheduling of compliance reviews and other FAA meetings to determine compliance with Title VI and related requirements.
- Receives discrimination complaints covered by Title VI and related requirements, and forwards them to the FAA, within 15 days of receipt, together with any actions taken to resolve the matter.
- Provides the FAA with updates regarding its response and status of early resolution efforts to complaints concerning Title VI and related requirements (49 CFR Part 21, Appendix C(b)(3)), including resolution efforts.
- Annually reviews the airport's Title VI plan and disseminates information throughout staff and the Airport Sponsor's leadership.
- Coordinates data collection to evaluate whether racial or ethnic groups are unequally benefited or impacted by airport programs. The data will be regularly assessed and readily available upon request (49 CFR § 21.9(b) & (c)). Data collection methods will include optional demographic questions in: airport customer satisfaction surveys, customer complaints, airport event sign-in sheets, and bids/proposals for airport contracts, and other methods described in the airport Community Participation Plan (CPP).
- Maintains demographic data for members of appointed planning and advisory bodies for the airport. Identifies any disparities compared to the community. Provides information to the membership selecting official/committee, particularly when vacancies occur.
- Maintains a copy of 49 CFR Part 21 for inspection by any person asking for it during normal working hours (49 CFR 21, Appendix C (b)(2)(i)).

See Notice, Compliance reviews, Audits, Lawsuits, and Other Investigations, and Complaints Sections of this Plan.

The Coordinator has requested and received access to the Title VI portion of the FAA Civil Rights Connect System (https://faa.civilrightsconnect.com/).

5. Notice

49 CFR Part 21 Appendix C(b)(2)(ii)

The Authority will conspicuously display the FAA-provided Unlawful Discrimination Poster in all public areas on airport property, including those with pedestrian activity. The Coordinator ensures that these posters are visible, accessible,² and maintained. The poster template is available at

https://www.faa.gov/about/office org/headquarters offices/acr/com civ support/non disc pr/ and a completed copy is attached. See Section 15 Appendix.

The Authority has posted the above Title VI policy statement at its staff offices.

The Authority will distribute this Title VI Plan among its employees and airport contractors, concessionaires, lessees, and tenants. This plan will be distributed once approved by the FAA via email and hard copies, where applicable.

Posters are displayed in the terminal and other areas on airport property, including the following public locations:

Terminal/FBO/Concessions/ Other Locations	Quantity in Pre-Security Area	Quantity in Post-Security Area	Additional Quantities
Terminal Main Area	2	2	
Terminal Men's Restroom	1	1	
Terminal Women's Restroom	1	1	
ARFF Station			1
Valdosta Flying Service (FBO)			2

Source: Airport staff

Outreach to Affected Communities

The Airport Manager's Office ensures that notices for public meetings reach all segments of the impacted community. The Title VI coordinator will identify the effective media platforms to share announcement and notices. Announcements are made in social media, general circulation newspapers, community newspapers, email broadcast, and the Valdosta Regional Airport website: www.flyvaldosta.com. The Airport Manager's Office contacts leaders and representatives in Affected Communities directly to confirm effective media platforms to reach all Affected Communities³ and provide important feedback on translated materials. The office

² For more information about website accessibility, please visit ADA.gov.

³ We will not subject any persons to discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, or creed. The term "protected communities" is used within this Title VI Plan to highlight the requirements of Title VI, 49 U.S.C. §

maintains records of all such notices and the efforts made to reach each of the Affected Communities.

The Authority will create a detailed CPP by **January 31st**, **2025**. A copy of the plan will be available at www.flyvaldosta.com.

To ensure that the community is effectively informed of and able to participate in public hearings, The Airport Manager's Office includes public notices translated into appropriate languages, including for any language spoken by a significant number or proportion of the Affected Community population that has limited English proficiency (LEP). Such social media postings and notices will include direction for obtaining an interpreter, free of charge, for public hearings. 28 CFR § 42.405(d). See Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Section.

47123, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and in some instances, includes low-income populations under Executive Order 12898.

6. Community Statistics

Title VI regulations require Federal grant recipients to know their community demographics. See 49 CFR § 21.9(b). By knowing this information, the Authority will be able to identify, understand, and engage with communities. In doing so, the Authority needs to know about communities eligible to be served, actually or potentially affected, benefited or burdened by the Authority's airport program.

Affected Communities ⁴	Population
Valdosta City, Georgia	52,807
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey	5-Year Estimates

(Hereafter, the above communities will be referred to collectively as "the Affected Communities").

We have identified the following facts about the Affected Communities:

Low Income Communities⁵.

A low-income area is an identifiable group of persons living in geographic proximity, whose median household income is at or below the Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines. Pursuant to Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," The Authority is collecting information about affected and potentially affected low-income communities. According to the U.S Census Report, *S1701: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months*, the overall poverty level for Valdosta City within which the Valdosta Regional Airport lies is approximately 26.8%. The poverty rate remains high compared with the rest of Lowndes County (20.3%). The poverty rates for the specific Affected Communities are as follows.

Affected Communities	Poverty Rate
Valdosta City, Georgia	26.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Racial and Ethnic Communities.

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⁴ "Affected communities" means any readily identifiable group potentially impacted by an airport project or operation, such as the community immediately surrounding a project or a community in the flight path.

⁵ Low-income data must be collected to assist in our compliance with Environmental Justice requirements (not Title VI requirements). For example, this data will be utilized in our Community Participation Plan (CPP) to help ensure the meaningful involvement of low income communities in airport programs and activities.

Demographic data for race, color, and national origin was evaluated to identify racial and ethnic communities and populations in each Affected Community. The demographic composition by race, color, or national origin for the specific Affected Communities are as follows

Affected Community: <u>Valdosta City, GA</u>
Total Affected Community Population: <u>52,807</u>

Demographic Group within Affected Community	Number of People in Minority Group	Percent of Total Affected Community	
	Minority Group	Population	
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	99	0%	
Asian alone	706	1%	
Black or African American alone	29,820	56%	
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	107	0%	
Some other race alone	1,067	2%	
Two or more races	2,445	5%	
White alone	18,563	35%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<u>Limited English Proficiency (LEP)</u>.

The goal of all language access planning and implementation is to ensure that the Authority communicates effectively with limited English proficient (LEP) individuals. Effective language access requires self-assessment and planning. The next table lists non-English languages⁶ that are spoken in LEP households in the Affected Communities. The data source is the American Community Survey.

The threshold we have used for identifying the languages with significant LEP populations is the DOT LEP Policy Guidance safe harbor threshold, which is 5% or 1,000, whichever is less.⁷ The safe harbor for our community is 1000. Please refer to the end of this document to find data for all languages in our community.

Languages Spoken by LEP Population that Meet the Safe Harbor Threshold	Number	Margin of Error
All Non-English Languages are below the		
threshold		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

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⁶ Recommend using language groups from the U.S. Census, and using data for the "Speak English less than 'very well'" category for each language over the threshold.

⁷ See the DOT LEP Policy Guidance at https://www.federalregister.gov/d/05-23972/p-133. The safe harbor provisions apply to the translation of written documents only; however, it provides a consistent starting point for identifying significant LEP populations.

Frequency of contact with LEP individuals at the airport and airport-related activities (all languages):

Languages Spoken by LEP Persons	A few times a year (12 or less days a year)	Several times a month (13 to 51 days a year)	At least once a week (52 to 364 days a year)	Every day (365 days a year)
Spanish		X		

Source: Airport staff

Additional languages spoken by significant numbers of LEP persons in the Affected Communities, local schools, emergency service providers, and others, include:

	Additional Languages Spoken	
None		

This information is updated annually⁸ through checking the following resources:

Data Sources for Languages Spoken in Affected Community	Website link to Data Source
U.S. Census Bureau	https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2015. B16001?q=B16001&g=160XX00US1378800

Beneficiary Diversity.

Demographic information is collected from airport customers, attendees at community meetings, and businesses seeking opportunities at the airport, through voluntary disclosures.

Description of Beneficiary Demographic Information Collection Methods

- Airport Manager's Office conducts biannual surveys of airport guests for customer satisfaction with airport concessions, restroom cleanliness, food offerings, and other elements and services. The survey includes a voluntary request for demographic information.
- Participants at small business workshops, pre-bid meetings, and other public meetings are asked to complete an anonymous survey that includes demographic information.
- Businesses that submit bids or offers are asked to complete an anonymous survey that includes demographic information, submitted through a data collection website.

Staff and Advisory Board Diversity.

Demographic information is collected from airport program employees and members of planning and advisory boards, through voluntary disclosures.

⁸ Data should be kept up-to-date, but this plan does not need to be updated for incremental data changes during the Plan's 3-year period.

Description of Employee and Advisory Board Demographic Information Collection Methods

- Employees are asked to submit voluntary confidential demographic information at time of hiring. Job applicants are asked to submit the same information when submitting their job application through the job application website.
- Every 3 years, the airport administration sends an email to all board members asking them to voluntarily and anonymously enter demographic information through an online survey.

7. Potential or Known Community Impacts

Projects or services receiving federal financial assistance have the potential to touch so many aspects of American life. Thus, in general, no Authority activity must have a discriminatory disparate impact on the basis of race, color, national origin (including LEP), sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), creed, or age. This means that policies or procedures that have a disparate impact would require a well-documented substantial legitimate nondiscriminatory justification, summarized below. Impacts to protected communities must be avoided or minimized to the extent possible. No project with a discriminatory impact on protected communities will be undertaken.⁹

The following airport facilities are already in use or under construction and expected to be in use within the next 3 years:

Existing Airport Facilities

Affected Community Impacted by Operation of the Facility

Terminal	None
ARFF Station	None
Runway 18	None
Runway 36	None
Runway 22	None
Runway 4	None
Fuel Farm	None
Control Tower (General Aviation Terminal)	None
Valdosta Flying Service FBO (General Aviation	None
Terminal)	

Source: Airport staff

The following airport facility projects (including all alternatives) are in construction or expected to be in construction within the next 3 years:

Airport Facility Construction Projects

Affected Community Impacted by Construction of the Facility

Control Tower (New Separate from GA Terminal)	None
General Aviation Terminal (FBO will be located	None
within)	

Source: Airport staff

We have analyzed the above existing facilities and facility construction projects for disparate impacts on the basis of race, color, or national origin (including LEP) in Affected Communities. The following have disparate impacts:

⁹ In order to carry out an alternative with a discriminatory impact, the airport sponsor must demonstrate that there was a substantial legitimate justification for the decision. The sponsor must also show that alternatives with less discriminatory impacts were meaningfully considered and rejected for legitimate reasons.

Facilities or Construction Projects with Disparate Impacts	Affected Community Impacted	Impact Can Be Eliminated?
None		
Justifications:		
Facilities or Construction Projects	Justification	
Not Applicable		

8. Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

Executive Order 13166

In creating a Language Assistance Plan, the Authority will consider the volume, proportion, or frequency of contact with LEP persons in determining the appropriate language assistance to provide.

In Community Statistics section, we identified the following languages spoken by LEP persons in Affected Communities

Language
None

The Authority also collects data for languages spoken by airport guests. 10 Data sources include:

Data Sources for Languages Spoken by Airport Guests	Website link to Data Source
Assistance requests to Airport Manager's Office	N/A
Assistance requests to the Airline counter	N/A

Based on the above data, the following <u>additional</u> languages have been identified as likely to be spoken by LEP airport guests:

	Language	
None		

The Title VI Coordinator will also actively engage with community educators, community groups, places of work, business groups, social groups, and the like to confirm that translation and interpretation services are accurate and effective. Additionally, the Title VI Coordinator will inform leadership and staff of the Authority of the responsibility to provide language access. We have made the following plans to provide translation services free of charge to ensure that individuals with LEP have access to the benefits of the airport:

Translation Services:

- All written notices contain a statement in the identified languages, when appropriate, of how to receive translated written materials.
- The following vendors have been identified for written translations:

¹⁰ We aim to provide appropriate language assistance services to every LEP person encountered. This includes instances when LEP statistical data for a particular language was not available beforehand, or the safe harbor threshold for written translation was not met.

Translation Vendors	Languages
Language Line Solutions	More than 240 languages

• Information regarding translation services can be obtained at:

Location for Translation Assistance	Languages
Airport Information Desk	Over 240 languages including Spanish
	using Language Lines Solutions

Interpretation Services:

• The following vendors have been identified for interpretation services:

Interpretation Vendors	Languages
Language Line Solutions	More than 240 Languages

• Information regarding interpretation services can be obtained at:

Location for Interpretation Assistance	Languages
Airport Information Desk	Over 240 languages including Spanish using Language Lines Solutions

Description of Interpretation Assistance Processes

The airport contracts with Language Line Solutions. to provide on-demand telephone interpretation services to airport guests. When a request for an interpreter is received, the following process is used: Airport information desk staff use I-Speak cards to identify the language spoken by the airport guest. Staff contacts Language Line, Inc. and "parks" the request in the queue for the appropriate language. Language Line, Inc. operators will connect the requesting party to an interpreter for the duration of the call. The completed call is then logged in the Language Line Service binder. This log is kept for one year.

9. Transportation

49 Part CFR 21 Appendix C (a)(1)(ix)

In the Community Statistics section of this plan, we identified Affected Communities and provided demographic and related data for the community populations. The minority and disadvantaged community areas located within the Affected Communities are identified below. Other minority and disadvantaged community areas that are near the airport but not within Affected Communities are also identified below.

We have coordinated with Valdosta on Demand, Uber, and Lyft to encourage them to provide transit service access between the airport and these areas.

The following chart identifies existing and planned transit services connecting the airport employment centers with the identified minority and disadvantaged community areas.

Minority and/or Disadvantaged Community Areas	Transit Service	Planned or Existing
Valdosta	Valdosta on Demand	Existing
Valdosta	Uber	Existing
Valdosta	Lyft	Existing

Source: Airport staff

10. Minority Businesses

49 CFR 21 Appendix C (a)(1)(x)

Bids for airport concessions and other business opportunities are solicited from area minority and woman-owned businesses through the following methods:

Airport Business Opportunity	Minority Business Outreach Methods
Rental Car Concessions	Followed procedures for Airport Concessions Disadvantage Business
	Enterprise Program
Terminal Concessions	Followed procedures for Airport Concessions Disadvantage Business
	Enterprise Program

Source: Airport staff

Selections are in compliance with Title VI, Part 21, and related requirements. Information on the award process and documentation for specific bid decisions is kept with the **Airport Manager's Office.**

11. Training

New employee orientation incorporates Title VI training. Topics include:

- Title VI and related laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin (including LEP), sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), creed, or age
- Title VI complaints must be forwarded to the Coordinator
- Protections against retaliation for filing civil rights complaints or related actions
- Title VI notices must be displayed throughout the airport public facilities
- All contracts must include Title VI clauses
- Language interpretation and translation services
- Cultural and community relations sensitivity training
- Anti-harassment training

Refresher information will be provided annually.

12. Compliance Reviews, Audits, Complaints, Lawsuits, and Other Investigations

<u>FAA Notification</u>. The Coordinator will notify FAA of any pending investigations and reviews, including:

- Compliance reviews or audits concerning civil rights requirements¹¹
- Complaints, lawsuits, or other investigations alleging noncompliance with civil rights requirements¹²

As discussed in the Title VI Complaints Section, Title VI complaints must be forwarded to FAA contacts within 15 days of receipt. For all other civil rights investigations, the Authority must notify FAA contacts of any new investigations prior to grant execution.

At regular intervals, the Coordinator will provide FAA contacts with status updates for the investigations and reviews, until completed. For each existing investigation or review completed within 5 years of this plan, the Coordinator will also provide a statement about the outcome, unless previously provided.

13. Title VI Complaints

49 CFR 21.11; 49 CFR 21 Appendix C (b)(3); 28 CFR 42.406(d)

<u>Scope</u>. These procedures are for complaints of discrimination under Title VI and related laws (hereafter "Title VI Complaints." In order to be a Title VI Complaint, the complaint must:

- 1. Allege discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin (including LEP), sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), creed, or age or violations administrative requirements under Title VI or related laws.
- 2. Not only be for employment matters¹³
- 3. Allege misconduct by the Authority, including airport employees, contractors, concessionaires, lessees, or tenants.
- **4.** Concern an airport facility or actions by the Authority, including airport employees, contractors, concessionaires, lessees, or tenants.

<u>Rights</u>. Any person who believes that he or she has been subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin (including LEP), sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), creed, or age has the right to file a complaint with the Authority. Alternatively, they can file a formal complaint with an outside agency, such as the U.S. Departments of Justice or Transportation, or the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), or seek other legal remedies.

<u>Receipt of Complaint</u>. The Coordinator will log in the complaint and promptly send copies of the complaint to the office named in the compliant and the Airport Manager.

Complaints must be filed within **180 days** of the discriminatory event, must be in writing, and must be delivered to:

Dainel Williams Interim Airport Manager/Operations Manager Title VI Coordinator 1750 Airport Rd Suite 1 Valdosta, GA 31601

Phone: 229-333-1833 ext: 103 Email: ops@flyvaldosta.com

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¹¹ Includes any Title VI, ADA, Sec. 504, Title VII/EEO, or other civil rights program compliance review or audit to be performed on the airport sponsor or any of its sub-recipients by any State, local or Federal agency.

¹² Includes allegations of discrimination based on race, color, national origin (including LEP), sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), creed, or age, whether because of actions of the airport sponsor itself, or its employees, contractors, or tenants. Includes noncompliance with related administrative requirements under civil rights laws.

¹³ Complaints of employment discrimination must be addressed as required by EEOC and other applicable authorities with jurisdiction over employment matters. If an Airport sponsor employment activity is supported by FAA-provided financial assistance or it is alleged that the employment discrimination affects the broader airport program, complaints about that activity must also be reported to FAA.

If a complaint is initially made by phone, it must be supplemented with a written complaint before **180 days** after the discriminatory event has passed. If a verbal complaint is received, the complainant should be given a copy of the Airport Discrimination Complaint Procedures and instructed to submit a written complaint. Accommodation will be provided upon request to individuals unable to file a written complaint due to a disability.

<u>Initial Procedure.</u> The Coordinator may meet with the complainant to clarify the issues, obtain additional information, and determine if informal resolution might be possible in lieu of an investigation. If successfully resolved, the Coordinator will issue a closure letter to the complainant, record the disposition in the complaints log, and report the resolution to FAA.

Discrimination Complaint Referral Procedure

<u>Internal Complaint Referral</u>. All Title VI complaints must be promptly forwarded to the Coordinator within **5 business days**.

<u>Initial FAA Notification</u>. A copy of each Title VI complaint will be forwarded to the FAA within 15 days of initial receipt (not the date that the Coordinator was notified). The Coordinator will forward a copy of the complaint and a statement describing all actions taken to resolve the matter, and the results thereof to the FAA Civil Rights staff. (Note: complaints based on disability do not have to be forwarded to FAA.) To transmit complaint information to the FAA, the Coordinator will upload the information through the FAA Civil Rights Connect System. The Coordinator will also seek technical assistance from FAA, as needed, throughout complaint intake, investigation and resolution process.

Investigation Procedure

<u>Assignment of Investigator</u>. The Coordinator will immediately begin the investigation or designate an investigator.

<u>Cooperation with FAA</u>. The Coordinator will promptly investigate all Title VI complaints, including those referred by the FAA for investigation. If the FAA is investigating a complaint against the Authority, the Coordinator will avoid interfering with the FAA investigation, cooperate with the FAA when needed, and share factual information with the FAA.

<u>Prompt Investigation</u>. The Coordinator will make every effort to complete discrimination complaint investigations within **60 calendar days** after the complaint is received. Some investigations may take longer with a justification for the delay and assurance that the investigation is being completed as quickly as possible.

<u>Contact with Complainant.</u> The Coordinator will meet with the complainant to clarify the issues and obtain additional information, and also speak with community members and potential witnesses, as appropriate.

<u>Investigation Report</u>. After completing the investigation, the Coordinator will prepare a written

report.

<u>Consultation with Legal Counsel</u>. In each case, the Coordinator will consult with Legal Counsel regarding the investigation and the report. Airport Legal Counsel will ensure that the report is consistent with the DOT and FAA Title VI nondiscrimination requirements.

<u>Prompt Resolution of Disputes</u>. The Coordinator will emphasize voluntary compliance and quickly and fairly resolve disputes with complainants, or with contractors, tenants, or other persons, through alternate dispute resolution, negotiation, and/or mediation.

<u>Forwarding Report and Response to Complainant</u>. At the completion of the investigation, the complainant and respondent will receive a letter of findings and determination of the investigation and any applicable resolution. The letter transmitting the findings and any applicable resolution will state The Authority's conclusion regarding whether unlawful discrimination occurred, and will describe the complainant's appeal rights. A summary of the investigation report, any appeal, or follow-up actions will be sent to the FAA via the FAA Civil Rights Connect System.

<u>Appeal Rights.</u> The complainant must be notified of their right to appeal the findings or determinations, and of the procedures and requirements for an appeal:

- The complainant may appeal in writing to the **Airport Manager**
- The written appeal must be received 30 business days after receipt of the written decision.
- The written appeal must contain all arguments, evidence, and documents supporting the basis for the appeal.
- The **Airport Manager** will issue a final written decision in response to the appeal.

<u>Avoiding Future Discrimination</u>. In addition to taking action with respect to any specific instances of discrimination, the Authority will identify and implement measures to reduce the chances of similar discrimination in the future.

<u>Intimidation and Retaliation Prohibited</u>. The Authority employees, contractors, and tenants will not intimidate or retaliate against a person who has filed a complaint alleging discrimination.

For information on filing a complaint with DOT/FAA, please contact **Timothy Hood** (229) 333-1833 x 102.

This complaint procedure is shared with the public through the following methods:

Website, In-person, and Other Distribution Methods

Airport website, Title VI Page at www.localairport.gov/civilrights

In-Person at the Airport Manager's Offices

14. Population / Language Data

S1701: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months

	Valdosta City, Georgia					
	Total		Below poverty level		Percent below poverty level	
Label	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
Population for whom poverty status is determined	52,807	±124	14,139	±1,344	26.8%	±2.5
AGE						
Under 18 years	12,202	±545	4,420	±642	36.2%	±5.3
Under 5 years	3,609	±471	783	±317	21.7%	±8.3
5 to 17 years	8,593	±550	3,637	±592	42.3%	±6.3
Related children of householder under 18 years	12,199	±544	4,417	±642	36.2%	±5.3
18 to 64 years	33,442	±641	8,640	±961	25.8%	±2.8
18 to 34 years	18,680	±765	5,474	±755	29.3%	±3.9
35 to 64 years	14,762	±748	3,166	±424	21.4%	±2.8
60 years and over	9,300	±540	1,464	±318	15.7%	±3.4
65 years and over	7,163	±492	1,079	±245	15.1%	±3.3
SEX						
Male	24,108	±492	5,818	±743	24.1%	±3.0
Female	28,699	±529	8,321	±925	29.0%	±3.2
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN	,					
White alone	18,563	±1,076	2,889	±657	15.6%	±3.5
Black or African American alone	29,820	±1,071	9,925	±1,216	33.3%	±4.0
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	99	±94	89	±96	89.9%	±20.4
Asian alone	706	±297	31	±55	4.4%	±8.7
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	107	±104	86	±98	80.4%	±34.3
Some other race alone	1,067	±457	535	±433	50.1%	±26.1
Two or more races	2,445	±714	584	±280	23.9%	±9.7
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	3,221	±526	1,139	±489	35.4%	±13.3
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	17,770	±981	2,666	±600	15.0%	±3.4
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT						
Population 25 years and over	30,700	±730	6,246	±701	20.3%	±2.2
Less than high school graduate	3,428	±597	1,411	±436	41.2%	±9.3

High school graduate						
(includes equivalency)	9,241	±691	2,550	±470	27.6%	±4.7
Some college, associate's degree	9,197	±773	1,755	±403	19.1%	±4.2
Bachelor's degree or higher	8,834	±695	530	±244	6.0%	±2.8
EMPLOYMENT STATUS						
Civilian labor force 16 years						
and over	24,923	±965	3,839	±665	15.4%	±2.5
Employed	23,292	±909	3,144	±567	13.5%	±2.4
Male	11,244	±667	1,134	±374	10.1%	±3.2
Female	12,048	±745	2,010	±415	16.7%	±3.2
Unemployed	1,631	±434	695	±330	42.6%	±13.6
Male	784	±253	206	±156	26.3%	±16.8
Female	847	±291	489	±241	57.7%	±16.2
WORK EXPERIENCE						
Population 16 years and over	41,715	±611	10,038	±996	24.1%	±2.3
Worked full-time, year- round in the past 12 months	16,379	±997	915	±315	5.6%	±1.9
Worked part-time or part- year in the past 12 months	10,324	±977	3,115	±593	30.2%	±4.8
Did not work	15,012	±998	6,008	±816	40.0%	±4.0
ALL INDIVIDUALS WITH INCOME BELOW THE FOLLOWING POVERTY RATIOS	10,012		3,000	2010	101076	2.00
50 percent of poverty level	8,562	±1,149	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
125 percent of poverty level	17,926	±1,450	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
150 percent of poverty level	21,140	±1,241	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
185 percent of poverty level	27,372	±1,712	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
200 percent of poverty level	29,401	±1,578	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
300 percent of poverty level	37,311	±1,298	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
400 percent of poverty level	42,699	±1,144	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
500 percent of poverty level	46,834	±913	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS FOR WHOM POVERTY STATUS IS DETERMINED	15,571	±1,022	5,885	±808	37.8%	±4.2
Male	7,156	±712	2,426	±395	33.9%	±5.0
Female	8,415	±680	3,459	±634	41.1%	±6.0
15 years	0	±34	0	±34	-	**
16 to 17 years	3	±9	3	±9	100.0%	±100.0
18 to 24 years	4,770	±669	2,598	±587	54.5%	±9.7
25 to 34 years	2,829	±477	734	±314	25.9%	±10.1
35 to 44 years	1,657	±447	659	±244	39.8%	±12.8
45 to 54 years	1,388	±329	324	±134	23.3%	±9.5
55 to 64 years	1,536	±317	868	±227	56.5%	±8.7
65 to 74 years	1,787	±372	573	±207	32.1%	±9.9
75 years and over	1,601	±256	126	±92	7.9%	±5.9

Mean income deficit for unrelated individuals (dollars)	9,261	±870	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Worked full-time, year-round in the past 12 months	5,428	±840	310	±210	5.7%	±3.7
Worked less than full-time, year-round in the past 12 months	4,431	±694	2,337	±560	52.7%	±7.5
Did not work	5,712	±779	3,238	±679	56.7%	±6.0
Population in housing units for whom poverty status is	52.564	. 120	12.054	.1.220	26.58	. 2. 5
determined	52,564	±130	13,954	±1,338	26.5%	±2.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

B16001: Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over

	Valdosta City, Georgia		
Label	Estimate	Margin of Error	
Total:	52,202	±323	
Speak only English	48,600	±646	
Spanish or Spanish Creole:	2,153	±424	
Speak English "very well"	1,444	±349	
Speak English less than "very well"	709	±201	
French (incl. Patois, Cajun):	125	±86	
Speak English "very well"	88	±63	
Speak English less than "very well"	37	±58	
French Creole:	57	±70	
Speak English "very well"	57	±70	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	
Italian:	0	±30	
Speak English "very well"	0	±30	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	
Portuguese or Portuguese Creole:	3	±5	
Speak English "very well"	3	±5	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	
German:	116	±74	
Speak English "very well"	99	±70	
Speak English less than "very well"	17	±20	
Yiddish:	19	±31	
Speak English "very well"	19	±31	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	
Other West Germanic languages:	7	±10	
Speak English "very well"	7	±10	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	
Scandinavian languages:	6	±10	
Speak English "very well"	6	±10	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	
Greek:	0	±30	
Speak English "very well"	0	±30	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	
Russian:	22	±23	
Speak English "very well"	22	±23	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	
Polish:	0	±30	
Speak English "very well"	0	±30	
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30	

Serbo-Croatian:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Other Slavic languages:	30	±46
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	30	±46
Armenian:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Persian:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Gujarati:	273	±178
Speak English "very well"	75	±65
Speak English less than "very well"	198	±145
Hindi:	56	±69
Speak English "very well"	47	±67
Speak English less than "very well"	9	±14
Urdu:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Other Indic languages:	39	±67
Speak English "very well"	39	±67
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Other Indo-European languages:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Chinese:	295	±251
Speak English "very well"	47	±54
Speak English less than "very well"	248	±211
Japanese:	55	±48
Speak English "very well"	28	±29
Speak English less than "very well"	27	±42
Korean:	109	±87
Speak English "very well"	15	±28
Speak English less than "very well"	94	±95
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Hmong:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Thai:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Laotian:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30

Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Vietnamese:	22	±26
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	22	±26
Other Asian languages:	7	±12
Speak English "very well"	7	±12
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Tagalog:	25	±35
Speak English "very well"	25	±35
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Other Pacific Island languages:	16	±26
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	16	±26
Navajo:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Other Native North American languages:	6	±12
Speak English "very well"	6	±12
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Hungarian:	0	±30
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
Arabic:	6	±10
Speak English "very well"	0	±30
Speak English less than "very well"	6	±10
Hebrew:	5	±7
Speak English "very well"	5	±7
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30
African languages:	130	±157
Speak English "very well"	47	±54
Speak English less than "very well"	83	±124
Other and unspecified languages:	20	±32
Speak English "very well"	20	±32
Speak English less than "very well"	0	±30

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

15. Completed Unlawful Discrimination Poster

Unlawful Discrimination

It is unlawful for airport operators and their lessees, tenants, concessionaires and contractors to discriminate against any person because of race, color, national origin, sex, creed, or disability in public services and employment opportunities. Allegations of discrimination should be promptly reported to the Airport Manager or:

Federal Aviation Administration Office of Civil Rights, ACR-1 800 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20591

Federal regulations on unlawful discrimination are available for review in the Airport Manager's Office.

Coordinator: Daniel Williams Phone: 229-333-1833

Address: 1750 Airport Rd. Suite 1 Valdosta, GA 31601 ops@flyvaldosta.com

Discriminacion Ilegal

Se prohibe a los operadores de aeropuertos y a sus arrendatarios, inquilinos, concesionarios y contratistas discriminar contra cualquier persona por motivo de raza, color, nacionalidad de origen, sexo, creencias religiosas, impedimento físico o discapacidad en lo que respecta a servicios públicos y oportunidades de empleo. Las alegaciones de discriminación deberán ser dirigidas inmediatamente al Administrador del Aeropuerto o a:

Federal Aviation Administration Office of Civil Rights, ACR-1 800 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20591

Los reglamentos sobre discriminación ilegal están a la disposición de los interesados para su examen en la oficina del Administrador del Aeropuerto.

Coordinador: Daniel Williams Teléfono: 229-834-6232

Dirección: 1750 Airport Rd. Suite 1 Valdosta, GA 31601

ops@flyvaldosta.com



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration HQ-10109