

Frequently Asked Questions

As of April 26, 2022

1. What is an AICUZ study and what does it do?

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) and the Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC) have updated the WPAFB Air Installations Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ) Study. The DoD AICUZ Program's goal is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of those living and working near air installations while sustaining the Air Force's operational mission. The AICUZ Program includes guidelines for land use compatibility within noise zones, Clear Zones, and Accident Potential Zones (APZs) associated with an Installation. In general, these guidelines recommend that noise-sensitive land uses be placed outside of high noise zones and that people-intensive uses not be placed within APZs. Land development should be compatible with noise zones, Clear Zones, and APZs around a military airfield. In addition, this Study will reference the Hazards to Aircraft Flight Zone (HAFZ), which is a recommended consultation zone for surrounding communities to encourage interaction between the base and local communities on development projects that while 'outside' the traditional AICUZ footprint may encroach on military activities.

2. Why is WPAFB updating its AICUZ Study?

This update provides current flight tracks, CZs, APZs, and noise contour information, presenting the most accurate representation of military activities occurring at WPAFB. This AICUZ update maintains the existing operational noise footprint to promote compatible growth, protect the base from future incompatible development, and ensure military operations do not negatively impact the local community.

The community has experienced changes in off-installation land use and/or projected land use. In the 25+ years since the 1995 AICUZ Study was prepared for WPAFB, land use, zoning regulations, and comprehensive planning processes in the surrounding municipalities have evolved. An update to the AICUZ Study will enhance understanding of where growth is occurring and identify any current land use compatibility issues and concerns related to aircraft operations at WPAFB.

The AF made changes to the AICUZ Air Force Instruction (AFI). In 2019, the Air Force retired the previous AICUZ guidance (AFI 32-7063) and incorporated its information into AF 32-1015 (published July 2019, revised in January 2021). One of the changes in AF guidance since the last AICUZ Study is the inclusion of the Hazards to Aircraft Flight Zone (HAFZ). The HAFZ is a recommended consultation zone around an installation. Meaning, that if certain types of developments or projects are within the HAFZ, it would be advisable for the municipality or developer to contact WPAFB to understand any potential conflicts with the flying mission.

3. Who does this AICUZ study effect?

All land use considerations within WPAFB's base boundary and identified properties outside the boundaries within the HAFZ; however, the WPAFB AICUZ document is a recommendation only and it is up to the applicable zoning authorities on how/if they adopt these land use recommendations.

4. When was your last AICUZ study completed?

The last AICUZ study was completed in 1995 and its conclusions have been adopted within the current WPAFB Airport Zoning Regulations (available on-line at Montgomery County's website under Airport Zoning Regulations). Administration includes representatives from Montgomery, Green, Miami, and Clark Counties.

5. Do you expect any changes to WPAFB operations? Will WPAFB produce more aircraft traffic? Will there be more noise produced at WPAFB by aircraft or other means?

Wright-Patterson AFB flight operations are outlined in the WPAFB AICUZ Study. For this AICUZ, WPAFB has chosen to utilize the planning contour that has historically been associated with the installation, which reflect the long-term (5- to 10-year) operational noise footprint for projected aircraft operations. This long term planning is more consistent with the planning horizon used by state, tribal, regional, and local planning bodies. Further, WPAFB's existing noise contours are codified by the local municipalities along with imaginary surface criteria. While operations have changed slightly over time, the runway dimensions have not changed. In order to protect the local community and ensure an increase of operations or if mission growth at WPAFB occurs, the Air Force will maintain the existing noise contours for planning purposes. This has many benefits to the community, the installation and this AICUZ Study, including providing a familiar airfield planning noise contour that is already adopted into many of the municipal zoning maps and provides operational flexibility and mission sustainment through promoting compatible growth in appropriate areas around the installation.

Utilizing a planning noise contour to provide long-range operational flexibility to the installation does not constitute a commitment to future operational changes.

6. Why is WPAFB choosing to maintain the existing operational noise footprint?

The planning noise contour need to serve permanent aircraft assigned at WPAFB, transient aircraft and a variety of planned military operations such as:

- *Hurricane Evacuation (HURREVAC) safe haven for coastal missions*
 - *Large variety of airframes*
 - *Nonstandard parking allows for a peak of 200+ aircraft of various sizes*
- *Primary alternate airfield for the 180th Fighter Wing (FW) (OH ANG) in Toledo*
 - *Emergencies & Training – arresting system that can handle F-16s*
- *Only 24/7 operational military airfield in 7 state region*
 - *Also serves as a “gas station” for long distance operations*

7. Does the AICUZ study look at economic impact of people living around the base?

No, this study is focused on health and safety; however the study does have an economic impact overview from the Dayton Development Coalition's FY19 Economic Impact Analysis of the Major Federal Installations in the Dayton Region.

8. Who enforces restrictions from the AICUZ Study?

Within the base boundary the 88 Civil Engineer Group (CEG) enforces all development restrictions. Outside the base boundary all regulations belong to the planning and zoning authorities that surround WPAFB.

9. Currently, which jurisdictions have developed zoning regulations based on AICUZ data?

Montgomery, Greene, Clark, and Miami Counties.

10. What was the public's involvement in this AICUZ study?

All surrounding local governments and supporting agencies have participated in the development of this study. Air Force and Installation subject matter experts, local community leaders, and supporting governmental agencies have also participated in the development of this study.

11. Will citizens be able to provide their input to this AICUZ study?

Citizens should voice their input to their local government; however, if you have a specific health and safety question please report it to WPAFB Public Affairs.

12. Who is the base POC for the AICUZ study?

WPAFB CEG (88CEG.CENPL.InstallationPlanning@us.af.mil) and WPAFB Public Affairs (88abw.pa.workflow@us.af.mil) are the POCs for this AICUZ Study.

13. Will there be a public document released once the AICUZ study is complete?

Yes, the Study is releasable after the public open house to individual upon request.

14. What is the next step after the AICUZ Study is produced?

Each of the four surrounding Counties will have the option to update their current Zoning Regulations.

15. We have talked with citizens around the base and will they see any differences after the AICUZ study is complete?

This update provides current flight tracks, Clear Zones (CZs), Accident Potential Zones (APZs), and noise contour information, presenting the most accurate representation of military activities occurring at WPAFB. This AICUZ update maintains the existing operational planning noise footprint to promote compatible growth, protect the base from future incompatible development, and ensure military operations do not negatively impact the local community. This study is informational only; however, each of the four surrounding Counties will have the option to update their current Zoning Regulations.

16. Do you anticipate any new restriction on properties around the base or do you expect any current restrictions on properties being lifted?

The AICUZ Study includes current, more simplified Standard Land Use Coding Manual (SLUCM) tables and terminology compared to the previous Study. The surrounding counties should review the Study and determine if a zoning update is required.