

# **Monthly Statistics Report**

To: Russell J. Handy, Aviation Director

From: Brian Pratte, Air Service Administrator

Copies: San Antonio Regional Stakeholders

Subject: August 2017 Monthly Statistics

Date: September 30, 2017

### **RECORD MONTH IN AUGUST 2017**

#### SUMMARY

San Antonio International Airport (SAT) experienced another record month of passenger traffic in August with 756,360 total passengers, a 5.1% increase over August 2016. This represents the highest level of traffic for any August on record which is an impressive feat considering 265 total flights were cancelled in August due to Hurricane Harvey. Year-to-date traffic totaled 5,977,614 passengers, representing a 4.4% increase YOY, also a record. The August growth represents the 14<sup>th</sup> straight month of passenger growth, as well as 15 of the past 16 months.

Domestic traffic for the month was up 5.5% compared to August 2016, primarily due to capacity increases by most of the domestic carriers as well as new routes from Frontier and Southwest. International traffic experienced a slight decrease of (1.8%). While scheduled seat reductions were seen by some of the airport's Mexican carriers, Southwest and United added capacity to Cancun in conjunction with Air Canada's new daily flight to Toronto which brought 2,300 seats to the market.

With respect to air cargo, a total of 22,100,623 pounds moved through SAT in August 2017 or 6.1% YOY, 3.4% YTD.

Please see Exhibit A for a detailed breakdown.

As part of our expanded efforts towards air service development, the San Antonio International Airport has developed a robust, broad air service marketing and advertising program. This program is intended to heighten awareness of options, including carriers and destinations, throughout San Antonio and the surrounding region.



#### DOMESTIC PASSENGERS

Scheduled domestic capacity increased 8.1% or 35,356 seats in August 2017 vs. August 2016 with 469,671 total monthly departure seats. Airlines routinely make monthly or seasonal adjustments to the number of flights and seats available to match market demand trends.

Remarkably, United Airlines increased their capacity by over 12% with larger aircraft operating to Chicago O'Hare, Denver, Newark and San Francisco while Southwest Airlines increased capacity by 10.4% with new nonstop service to Kansas City (began Nov 2016) and added frequencies to Baltimore, Chicago-Midway, Denver, Houston-Hobby, Nashville, Orlando and Tampa. American Airlines increased its capacity by nearly 7% with an added daily frequency to Charlotte (Aug 2016) and increased aircraft gauge to Chicago O'Hare and Phoenix with Delta growing capacity 4.1% with larger aircraft size to Detroit and Salt Lake City and increased frequency to Minneapolis.

Airline	Seat Capacity Change	Passenger Change		
Alaska Airlines	0.6%	(0.5%)		
Allegiant Air	(27.4%)	(25.0%)		
American Airlines	6.9%	8.3%		
Delta Air Lines	4.1%	7.1%		
Frontier Airlines	(5.1%)	(13.5%)		
Southwest Airlines	10.4%	9.4%		
United Airlines	12.2%	(3.8%)		

When comparing year-over-year domestic capacity changes, the results were based on the following:

- American Airlines: increased Miami service back to near daily in March during peak times. A fourth frequency was added to Charlotte in late August 2016 and an increased aircraft gauge to Chicago O'Hare and Phoenix in March and April 2017 respectively.
- Delta Air Lines: added eighth frequency to Atlanta in June 2017
- Frontier Airlines: began weekly service to Chicago O'Hare in April 2017
- Southwest Airlines: commenced daily nonstop service to Kansas City effective November 6<sup>th</sup> and added a fifth daily flight to Houston-Hobby that same day.
   Added frequencies to Nashville, Orlando and Tampa took place in June 2017 and Baltimore, Chicago-Midway and Denver took place in August 2017.
- United Airlines: Denver, Newark and Chicago O'Hare all experienced capacity growth in June 2017 with reductions to Los Angeles in June 2016 and San Francisco in September 2016 with seasonal aircraft gauge increases to San Francisco.





## **INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS**

Scheduled international capacity, or seats, increased in August 2017 YOY at 14,524 monthly departure seats or 18.5%. This increase was primarily due to a 178% increase in capacity on Southwest's Cancun service as well as to Air Canada's inaugural service to Toronto which began May 1<sup>st</sup> adding nearly 2,300 seats to the international market. United also added capacity to their seasonal Cancun service in August.

Total international passengers decreased slightly by (1.8%). While the valuation of the Peso to the U.S. Dollar has improved in 2017, with an increase of 3.2% in August YOY, the Peso still remained over 7% less in value than it did in August 2015 and over 26% less than it did in August 2014. Nonetheless, as the Peso continues to gain value, leisure and VFR traffic between Mexico and the U.S. is expected to recover.

Airline	Seat Capacity Change	Passenger Change
Air Canada	100%	100%
Aeromexico*	(50.6%)	(53.6%)
Interjet	0.0%	8.2%
Southwest (International)**	178.1%	155.2%
United (International)**	1.7%	(45.7%)
Volaris	(21.4%)	(31.4%)

<sup>\*</sup>Aeromexico ceased service from SAT to MTY in January 2017 \*\*Southwest and United offer seasonal service to Cancun, Mexico.

When comparing year-over-year international capacity changes, the results were based on the following:

- Aeromexico: increased to 2 daily flights to Mexico City only on select dates and ceased service to MTY in January 2017
- Air Canada: new daily service to Toronto began May 2017
- Southwest & United: offers service to Cancun on a seasonal basis
- Volaris: decreased seasonal capacity to Guadalajara in June 2017





### RECENT SCHEDULE CHANGES

In July 2017, Frontier announced the addition of six <u>NEW</u> markets for the airline from SAT. Less than daily service to New Orleans, Phoenix and San Diego will begin early October and less than daily, seasonal service to Cincinnati, Orlando and San José, CA will launch April 2018. Prior to this announcement, Cincinnati and San José were unserved markets with San José being on the airport's list of top target markets.

During August and September 2017, Frontier subsequently announced three additional **NEW** markets from SAT. Less than daily service to Ontario, CA and Washington-Dulles will also begin early October bringing much needed capacity from SAT to Washington D.C. and another airport option to the L.A. Basin with less than daily service to Colorado Springs to begin next April. Prior to these announcements, Colorado Springs and Ontario were unserved markets from SAT. In total, these new additions bring the number of Frontier destinations either announced or served from SAT to 14 with all to be flown on 150-180 seat Airbus 319/320 aircraft.

Volaris recently launched <u>NEW</u> daily nonstop service to Mexico City on September 15<sup>th</sup> flown on a 179-seat Airbus A320 aircraft. With this added service, SAT now offers four daily nonstop flights to Mexico's capital city.

In November 2017, Southwest will launch seasonal Saturday service to New York's La Guardia Airport. The airline will operate four total flights on November 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and December 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

On May 1, 2017, San Antonio International Airport welcomed a **NEW** international carrier with Air Canada's daily nonstop service to Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Southwest Airlines added <u>NEW</u> daily nonstop service to Kansas City, MO on November 6<sup>th</sup> and added a fifth daily flight to Houston-Hobby on the same day. Southwest has also recently added additional frequencies to Baltimore, Chicago-Midway, Denver, Nashville, Orlando and Tampa.





## **EXHIBIT A**

# San Antonio International Airport Passenger & Air Cargo Activity Summary Report

	August			Calendar Year-to-Date			
	2017	2016	% Change	2017	2016	% Change	
Passengers							
Domestic Enplanements	350,929	333,964	5.1%	2,858,619	2,721,865	5.0%	
Domestic Deplanements	369,249	348,966	5.8%	2,875,906	2,724,172	5.6%	
Total Domestic Passengers	720,178	682,930	5.5%	5,734,525	5,446,037	5.3%	
Intl Enplanements	17,587	17,572	0.1%	122,820	138,778	-11.5%	
Intl Deplanements	18,595	19,259	-3.4%	120,269	138,320	-13.1%	
Total Intl Passengers	36,182	36,831	-1.8%	243,089	277,098	-12.3%	
Grand Total All Passengers	756,360	719,761	5.1%	5,977,614	5,723,135	4.4%	

14,669,738	13,491,376	8.7%	105,640,894	100,983,610	4.6%
613,230	957,380	-35.9%	5,916,149	6,893,170	-14.2%
15,282,968	14,448,756	5.8%	111,557,043	107,876,780	3.4%
6,817,655	6,390,674	6.7%	48,636,256	46,983,434	3.5%
22,100,623	20,839,430	6.1%	160,193,299	154,860,214	3.4%
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# San Antonio International Airport Total Air Freight (000 lbs)

		August			Calendar Year-to-Date		
	2017	2016	% Change	2017	2016	% Change	
Air Carrier	7,692	6,929	11.0%	59,973	58,347	2.8%	
Air Taxi	1,723	2,372	-27.4%	13,213	14,552	-9.2%	
General Aviation	3,802	3,811	-0.2%	30,005	33,015	-9.1%	
Military	519	603	-13.9%	3,133	3,721	-15.8%	
Total Itinerant	13,736	13,715	0.2%	106,324	109,635	-3.0%	