

# **Monthly Statistical Report**

To:	Jesus Saenz, Director of Airports
From:	Brian Pratte, Chief Air Service Officer
Copies:	San Antonio Regional Stakeholders
Subject:	December 2023 Monthly Statistics
Date:	January 23, 2023

## SAT Breaks All-Time Passenger Record

#### SUMMARY

2023 officially becomes SAT's busiest year on record. This year not only brought back prepandemic levels of travel but also far exceeded levels seen during 2019. SAT has broken a monthly passenger level record every month consecutively since May 2023. Not only that, but the Airport also had its first month with over one million passengers in July 2023.

In 2023 10,676,570 passengers flew through SAT. This year beat the previous record by 3% which was set in 2019 with 10,363,040 passengers. 2023 also far exceeded the passenger numbers seen in the year prior with an increase of nearly 13% compared to 2022.

The airport launched several new routes and saw the expansion of existing service. Spirit Airlines (NK) launched service from SAT in 2022 but added new nonstop service to Baltimore (BWI), Ft. Lauderdale (FLL), and Los Angeles (LAX) during 2023. Viva Aerobus (VB) continued to expand service from SAT including a new destination, Queretaro (QRO), which started in December 2023. Additionally, Delta Air Lines (DL) resumed daily service to New York (JFK) and Southwest Airlines (WN) brought back daily service to Kansas City (MCI), both routes had been suspended during the pandemic.

In December 2023, the airport's passenger numbers reached 968,469. SAT once again broke a monthly passenger record with this December being the busiest in the airport's history and the first December passenger numbers reached above 900,000. The previous record was set in December 2019. Compared to the year prior, 2022, passenger numbers for December were up a significant 15%.

The airport continues to compare its numbers to those in 2019 to better understand its recovery. As previously mentioned, 2019 was a record year for the airport. Passenger levels seen during December 2023 were 9% higher than the same month in 2019.



Airlines continue to add capacity to the San Antonio market. Several airlines flew more seats to San Antonio this month than the same month in 2019. The airlines with the largest increases in service included Aeromexico (AM), American Airlines (AA), Delta Air Lines (DL), Frontier Airlines (F9), Southwest Airlines (WN), United Airlines (UA), and Volaris (Y4). Additionally, new airlines began flying from San Antonio since 2019 including JetBlue Airways (B6), Spirit Airlines (NK), and VivaAerobus (VB).

Additionally, a total of 21,867,169 pounds of air cargo moved through SAT during the month of December 2023. This is below levels seen during the same month in both 2022 and 2019. For more detailed information see the included charts.



### **Upcoming Changes**

Spirit Airlines (NK) will launch daily nonstop service to Newark (EWR) beginning on April 5<sup>th</sup>. This will bring the total daily flights to four from San Antonio (SAT) to the New York metro. Delta Air Lines (DL) and JetBlue Airways (B6) operate daily service to New York (JFK) and United Airlines (UA) operates twice daily to Newark (EWR).

**History will be made** on May 17, 2024, as Condor Airlines (DE) launches San Antonio's first-ever trans-Atlantic service to Frankfurt (FRA). Service will operate seasonally until September 6, 2024 during this first season, and will operate on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

United Airlines (UA) will add an additional daily flight to Washington-Dulles (IAD) bringing their total daily flights to three.

VivaAerobus (VB) will launch nonstop service to Torreon (TRC) starting on June 1<sup>st</sup> with two weekly frequencies on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

New nonstop service to Burbank (BUR) on Southwest Airlines (WN) begins on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

American Airlines (AA) will launch daily, nonstop service to Philadelphia (PHL) starting June 5<sup>th</sup>.



### DOMESTIC PASSENGERS

SAT continues to compare passenger numbers to 2019 levels to better understand and monitor the recovery. Total scheduled domestic capacity, or seats, were up 17% compared to 2019 levels while domestic passenger numbers were up 7% compared to December 2019.

Several airlines flew more passengers during December 2023 than the same month in 2019 showing not only recovery but significant growth in our market. These include Delta Air Lines (DL) up 16% and Frontier Airlines (F9) up 65%. Southwest Airlines (WN) reached 99% of the passenger levels seen during December 2019.

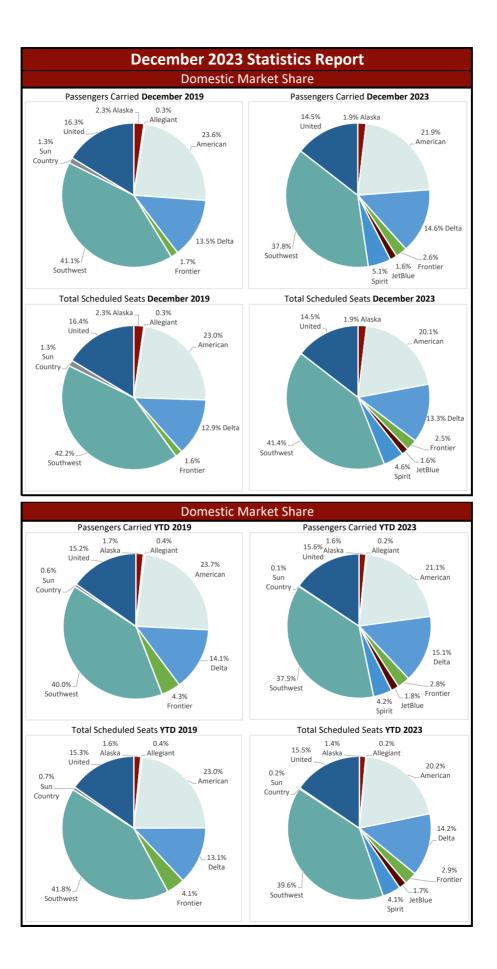
New airlines have contributed to these numbers including both JetBlue Airways (B6) and Spirit Airlines (NK) which both have launched nonstop service from SAT to various cities since the pandemic.

The following routes had more frequencies or capacity this month than in December 2019:

- American Airlines (AA) to Charlotte (CLT), Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW), Miami (MIA), and Phoenix (PHX)
- Delta Air Lines (DL) to Atlanta (ATL), Detroit (DTW), Los Angeles (LAX), Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP), and Salt Lake City (SLC),
- Frontier Airlines (F9) to Denver (DEN), Las Vegas (LAS), and Orlando (MCO)
- Southwest Airlines (WN) to Atlanta (ATL), Chicago (MDW), Dallas (DAL), Denver (DEN), El Paso (ELP), Houston (HOU), Kansas City (MCI), Las Vegas (LAS), Nashville (BNA), Orlando (MCO), Phoenix (PHX), San Diego (SAN), and Tampa (TPA)
- United Airlines (UA) to Denver (DEN), Newark (EWR), San Francisco (SFO), and Washington (IAD)

December 2023 Statistics Report									
Domestic Traffic									
		Pass	engers	Cap	acity				
Airline	Airline Code	Vs 2019	Vs 2022	Vs 2019	Vs 2022				
Alaska Airlines	AS	-11%	77%	-1%	88%				
American Airlines	AA	0%	9%	3%	13%				
Delta Air Lines	DL	16%	12%	20%	20%				
Frontier Airlines	F9	65%	-10%	83%	-7%				
JetBlue Airways	B6	100%	-10%	100%	2%				
Spirit Airlines	NK	100%	214%	100%	164%				
Southwest Airlines	WN	-1%	19%	15%	16%				
Sun Country Airlines	SY	-100%	-100%	-100%	-100%				
United Airlines	UA	-5%	-3%	4%	7%				

34 Domestic Destinations in December 2023											
Destination	Airport Code	AS	G4	AA	DL	F9	B6	NK	WN	SY	UA
Atlanta, GA	ATL				Х	Х			Х		
Baltimore, MD	BWI							Х	Х		
Boston, MA	BOS						Х				
Charlotte, NC	CLT			Х							
Chicago-Midway, IL	MDW								Х		
Chicago-O'Hare, IL	ORD			Х							Х
Colorado Springs, CO	COS								Х		
Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX	DFW			Х							
Dallas-Love, TX	DAL								Х		
Denver, CO	DEN					Х			Х		Х
Detroit, MI	DTW				Х						
El Paso, TX	ELP								Х		
Fort Lauderdale, FL, US	FLL							Х	Х		
Houston-Hobby, TX	HOU								Х		
Houston-Intercontinental, TX	IAH										Х
Kansas City, MO	MCI								Х		
Las Vegas, NV	LAS					Х		Х	Х		
Los Angeles, CA	LAX			Х	Х			Х	Х		
Miami, FL	MIA			Х							
Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN	MSP				Х						
Nashville, TN	BNA								Х		
New Orleans, LA	MSY								Х		
New York-JFK, NY	JFK				Х		Х				
Newark, NJ	EWR										Х
Oklahoma City, OK	ОКС								Х		
Orlando, FL	MCO					Х		Х	Х		
Phoenix, AZ	РНХ			Х					Х		
Salt Lake City, UT	SLC				Х						
San Diego, CA	SAN								Х		
San Francisco, CA	SFO										Х
Seattle, WA	SEA	Х									
St. Louis, MO	STL								Х		
Tampa, FL	TPA								Х		
Washington-Dulles, VA	IAD										Х





### INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS

An impressive increase in both international capacity and passengers to and from SAT has helped recovery at the airport. SAT's scheduled international capacity increased by 82% when compared to December 2019 while international passenger numbers increased by 44%.

All the airlines that operate international service from SAT added more seats to the market than in December 2019. Much of this increase in capacity was a result of pandemic closures to the land border. Since its reopening, demand and capacity has remained higher than pre-pandemic levels at SAT indicating that many travelers have decided to fly rather than drive to and from Mexico.

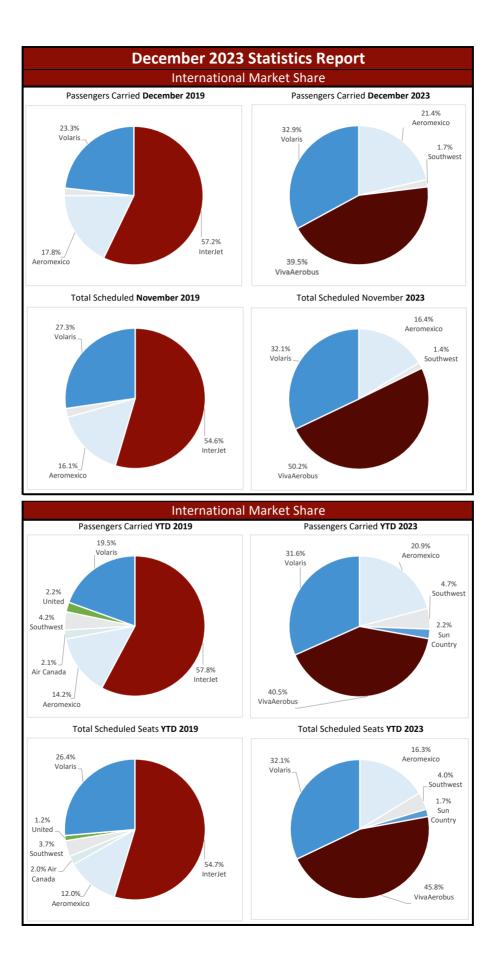
SAT ranked #1 among all U.S. medium-hub airports in terms of total seats to Mexico for December 2023. When looking at all U.S. airports, SAT ranked #14 between Orlando (MCO) and Detroit (DTW). In terms of total international seats, SAT ranked #30 out of all 72 U.S. airports that had international service during December.

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

- Aeromexico (AM) increasing frequency from daily to two/three times daily to Mexico City (MEX).
- Southwest (WN) increasing capacity on Cancun (CUN) nonstops and expanding the service year-round.
- Sun Country (SY) beginning nonstop service to Cancun (CUN) in 2021 and increasing frequencies in 2022.
- VivaAerobus (VB) entering the market with nonstop service to Leon/Guanajuato (BJX), Mexico City (MEX), and Monterrey (MTY).
- Volaris (Y4) nearly doubling their frequencies to both Guadalajara (GDL) and Mexico City (MEX).

December 2023 Statistics Report									
International Traffic									
		Passe	engers	Сар	acity				
Airline	Airline Code	Vs 2019	Vs 2022	Vs 2019	Vs 2022				
Interjet	40	-100%	0%	-100%	0%				
Aeromexico	AM	75%	9%	86%	9%				
Southwest Airlines	WN	42%	9%	25%	0%				
Sun Country Airlines	SY	0%	0%	0%	0%				
United Airlines	UA	0%	0%	0%	0%				
VivaAerobus	VB	100%	30%	100%	48%				
Volaris	Y4	107%	35%	115%	58%				

6 International Destinations in December 2023								
Destination	Airport Code	AM	WN	SY	VB	Y4		
Cancun, Mexico	CUN		Х					
Guadalajara, Mexico	GDL					Х		
Leon/Guanjuato, Mexico	BJX				Х			
Mexico City, Mexico	MEX	Х			Х	Х		
Monterrey, Mexico	MTY				Х			
Queretaro, Mexico	QRO				Х			



		Dece	mber 2023 S	Statistics Repo	rt			
	Compared to 2022							
		December		Cale	Calendar Year-to-Date			
	2023	2022	% Change	2023	2022	% Change		
Passengers								
Domestic Enplanements	463,670	414,289	11.9%	5,118,705	4,558,263	12.3%		
Domestic Deplanements	436,609	376,091	16.1%	4,936,544	4,348,378	13.5%		
Total Domestic Passengers	900,279	790,380	13.9%	10,055,249	8,906,641	12.9%		
International Enplanements	36,329	28,529	16.9%	306,360	278,975	9.8%		
International Deplanements	31,861	25,627	22.3%	314,961	276,833	13.8%		
Total International Passengers	68,190	54,156	25.9%	621,321	555,808	11.8%		
Total All Passengers	968,469	844,536	14.7%	10,676,570	9,462,449	12.8%		
Air Cargo (in pounds)								
Domestic Freight Enplaned	6,938,693	8,162,175	-15.0%	75,564,630	84,210,053	-10.3%		
Domestic Fright Deplaned	9,309,243	10,615,329	-12.3%	101,756,239	108,160,601	-5.9%		
Total Domestic Freight	16,247,936	18,777,504	-13.5%	177,320,869	192,370,655	-7.8%		
International Freight Enplaned	798,425	759,745	5.1%	6,145,987	8,339,853	-26.3%		
International Freight Deplaned	385,403	565,973	-31.9%	3,613,575	3,749,873	-3.6%		
Total International Frieght	1,183,828	1,325,718	-10.7%	9,759,562	12,089,726	-19.3%		
Total Freight	17,431,764	20,103,222	-13.3%	187,080,431	204,460,381	-8.5%		
Mail Enplaned	1,975,303	1,970,002	0.3%	22,551,330	24,946,304	-9.6%		
Mail Deplaned	2,460,102	2,590,921	-5.0%	32,078,739	38,760,599	-17.2%		
Total Mail	4,435,405	4,560,923	-2.8%	54,630,069	63,706,902	-14.2%		
Grand Total All Air Cargo	21,867,169	24,664,145	-11.3%	241,710,500	268,167,283	-9.9%		

	December 2023 Statistics Report								
	Compared to 2019								
		December			Cale	ndar Year-to-Date			
	2023	2019	% Change		2023	2019	% Change		
Passengers									
Domestic Enplanements	463,670	419,357	10.6%		5,118,705	4,962,724	3.1%		
Domestic Deplanements	436,609	421,423	3.6%		4,936,544	4,932,841	0.1%		
Total Domestic Passengers	900,279	840,780	7.1%		10,055,249	9,895,565	1.6%		
International Enplanements	36,329	24,464	48.5%		306,360	230,266	33.0%		
International Deplanements	31,861	22,842	39.5%		314,961	237,209	32.8%		
Total International Passengers	68,190	47,306	44.1%		621,321	467,475	32.9%		
Total All Passengers	968,469	888,086	9.1%		10,676,570	10,363,040	3.0%		
Air Cargo (in pounds)									
Domestic Freight Enplaned	6,938,693	7,109,468	-2.4%		75,564,630	82,525,571	-8.4%		
Domestic Fright Deplaned	9,309,243	10,552,081	-11.8%		101,756,239	112,561,846	-9.6%		
Total Domestic Freight	16,247,936	17,661,549	-8.0%	_	177,320,869	195,087,418	-9.1%		
International Freight Enplaned	798,425	331,694	140.7%		6,145,987	9,442,286	-34.9%		
International Freight Deplaned	385,403	933,110	-58.7%		3,613,575	3,516,106	2.8%		
Total International Frieght	1,183,828	1,264,804	-6.4%		9,759,562	12,958,392	-24.7%		
Total Freight	17,431,764	18,926,353	-7.9%		187,080,431	208,045,810	-10.1%		
Mail Enplaned	1,975,303	1,946,037	1.5%	I T	22,551,330	24,104,125	-6.4%		
Mail Deplaned	2,460,102	3,364,570	-26.9%		32,078,739	45,429,200	-29.4%		
Total Mail	4,435,405	5,310,607	-16.5%		54,630,069	69,533,324	-21.4%		
Grand Total All Air Cargo	21,867,169	24,236,960	-9.8%		241,710,500	277,579,134	-12.9%		