

## Welcome to NewsFLLash Issue #20

In this edition: Curbside valet parking service resumes, Frontier Airlines returns to FLL with 12 new destinations, FLL hosts St. Valentine's Day candy buffet, new Starbucks Coffee opens, and more.



**Mark E. Gale**

CEO/Director of Aviation  
Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood  
International Airport (FLL)

## A Message From the CEO

Love was in the air at FLL in February as we treated airport guests to a candy buffet of love-themed sweets on St. Valentine's Day to show our appreciation for their patronage. The airport's annual Valentine's Day treat is always a hit with passengers.

During the month, the Broward County Aviation Department (BCAD) resumed valet parking services at FLL after a nearly two-year suspension due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the airport celebrated the return of low-cost carrier Frontier Airlines with 12 new routes, two previously not served from Fort Lauderdale. Read more about these significant February events in the stories below.

For the community, new airline service can often translate to opportunities for employment and economic growth in the near or long term. Today, FLL continues to be a major economic engine in Broward County, and BCAD is committed to exploring avenues to increase the airport's contributions to its local community. Pre-pandemic, FLL generated \$37.5 billion in economic impact in 2019, and we anticipate not only getting back to this level but also growing beyond it in the future. While we are not yet where we were in 2019 in terms of passenger traffic, we are getting closer, particularly on the domestic side, which has rebounded more quickly than international travel.

In January, FLL served 2.26 million passengers, a 35 percent increase from the same month in 2021. Domestic passenger traffic grew 31 percent to 1.82 million travelers from January 2021, and international visitation rose nearly 55 percent to 430,253. Compared to pre-pandemic activity, January's passenger volume was only 30 percent less than January 2019.

With February now in the history books, we turn our attention to March, a month that ushers in Daylight Savings Time (3/13), the official start of spring (3/20), and annual celebrations like St. Patrick's Day (3/17). In Broward County, sea turtle nesting season also kicks off on March 1. Artificial lighting near the beachfront can disorient the turtles causing them to travel toward the land instead of the sea, so exercise caution when driving in coastal areas at night or visiting the beach.

Enjoy this edition of NewsFLLash, and thanks for staying connected.

*Mark*

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## **The Sky's the Limit**

### **January passenger traffic recap**

Passenger traffic climbed 35 percent in January to 2.26 million passengers compared to the same month in 2021. Domestic passenger traffic grew 31 percent to 1.82 million travelers from January 2021, and international visitation rose nearly 55 percent to 430,253.

Compared to pre-pandemic activity, January's passenger volume was only 30 percent less than January 2019.

In February, FLL congratulated JetBlue Airways - its second-largest carrier in 2021 for passenger traffic - for marking 22 years in operations. JetBlue, headquartered in New York, NY inaugurated service with its first revenue flight from John F. Kennedy International Airport to Fort Lauderdale on February 11, 2000. BCAD wishes JetBlue many more years of success ahead.

**[View FLL Statistics](#)**



## **Valet Parking Resumes**

### **Two drop-off/pick-up sites now available**

FLL resumed [Curbside Valet Parking](#) services at 8AM on Thursday, February 17, 2022, after a nearly two-year hiatus. FLL suspended valet parking in March 2020 due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to current staffing resource limitations amid the ongoing pandemic, valet parking will initially be offered at reduced capacity, and with only two drop-off/pick-up locations instead of three previously.

The two valet stations are located on the Departures (Upper) Level at the west ends of Terminals 1 and 4. The first location serves guests traveling to/from Terminals 1 and 2 meanwhile the second site caters to travelers in Terminals 3 and 4.

### **[Airport Parking Options](#)**





## Frontier Returns to FLL

### Low-cost carrier resumes operations

On February 17, Frontier Airlines, in partnership with BCAD, hosted a media event to mark its return to FLL with daily or weekly service to 12 U.S. destinations. The airline's Fort Lauderdale route map offers nonstop flights to Islip, Buffalo, Albany, Rochester, and Newburgh/Stewart in the New York area; Atlanta, GA; Orlando, FL; Trenton, NJ; Providence, RI, and Philadelphia, PA. Frontier's service schedule also includes two cities not previously served from FLL: Green Bay, WI and Portland, ME.

During the inaugural flight festivities, BCAD CEO/Director of Aviation Mark Gale (second right) extended a warm welcome to the Frontier team and wished the airline success with its resumption of FLL operations. Other key speakers and special guests included Broward County Mayor Michael Udine (left), Frontier Senior Vice President - Commercial Daniel Shurz (center), and Tracy Vaughan (right), SVP, Global Trade Development for Visit Lauderdale. An appearance by Frontier mascot, Powder the Polar Bear capped off the event.

### Airlines at FLL



## **County Administrator Retires**

### **Happy retirement, Bertha!**

Members of the Aviation Department recently extended their heartfelt thanks to Broward County Administrator Bertha Henry for her invaluable years of service and leadership as she prepared to officially retire on February 28. Henry served as the CEO of County Government under the guidance of the Board of County Commissioners for nearly 15 years of her 22-year County career. Deputy Administrator Monica Cepero, who the County Commission selected as Henry's successor will assume the role of CEO on March 1.

During Henry's tenure, she oversaw a county with over 1.9 million residents and operations for nearly 60 agencies with more than 6,200 employees, including FLL, Port Everglades, and Visit Lauderdale, formerly the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Broward County's budget for the fiscal year 2021 was more than \$5.3 billion.

Henry has been a true FLL champion and supporter, using her leadership skills, keen fiscal judgment, and management expertise to help bring significant airport infrastructure upgrades to fruition. Those improvements have included FLL's multibillion-dollar terminal modernization program and the new South Runway, inaugurated in September 2014.

### **New County Administrator**





Photo credit: Andre Chambers/BCAD

## Black History Month Flight

### Milestone Air Canada flight visits FLL

On February 11, Air Canada marked Black History Month (BHM) with a celebratory flight AC914 from Toronto to FLL and back via AC917, which was operated with a Black crew of two pilots and eight flight attendants.

"We salute and acknowledge the achievements and contributions of Air Canada's Black employees who brought forward their idea of operating today's Black History celebratory flight," said Arielle Meloul-Wechsler, Executive Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer and Public Affairs, in a news release. "We are very pleased to champion their identity, pride, and enthusiasm for this special, inaugural flight to commemorate Black History Month at our airline."

Read more about Air Canada's BHM flight to and from Fort Lauderdale [here](#).





## **St. Valentine's Guest Appreciation**

### **Buffet of sweet treats for travelers**

Love is always in the air each time we see airport guests traveling through FLL's terminals and concourses. However, on February 14, FLL planned a special treat for travelers this year to celebrate Valentine's Day with them.

For BCAD, it was a small gesture to thank them for showing us some love by making FLL their airport of choice. Airport guests with a weakness for sweetness could not resist the special rendezvous with Cupid's helpers at the candy buffets in Terminals 1 and 3. During the event, FLL guests had the opportunity to snap personal photos of themselves with the airport's heart-filled Valentine's Day picture frame.



Photo credit: Andre Chambers/BCAD

## **New Starbucks in Terminal 2**

### **New Venues expand airport shopping**

HMS Host recently opened FLL's newest Starbucks coffee shop in Terminal 2, Concourse D. The contemporary-designed Starbucks is located in the concourse's new center court, which also features a Hudson News kiosk, the Delta Sky Club, and Japanese eatery Umaizushi. The Starbucks, which opened in late January, offers a menu of espresso-based beverages, handcrafted teas, cold brews, and assortment of snacks to keep travelers fueled up for their day.

### **Dine & Shop at FLL**





## No Guns in Carry-Ons

Did you know that if caught with a weapon while going through the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) passenger screening checkpoints, even if you have a concealed weapons permit, your travel plans will be interrupted?

TSA penalties for firearms may cost more than \$10,000, as well as an arrest. Watch the TSA's "Traveling with Firearms" video to learn more.

If you do travel with a licensed firearm, the TSA says it should be unloaded, packed in a special locked container, declared with your airline, and transported as checked luggage.

### Safety First Initiatives

## FLL BY THE NUMBERS: JANUARY 2022

TOTAL TRAFFIC WAS  
**2,255,460**

**UP 35%**  
FROM JANUARY 2021

DOMESTIC  
**TRAFFIC**  
**1,825,207**

**UP 31%**  
OVER LAST YEAR

INTERNATIONAL  
**TRAFFIC**  
**430,253**

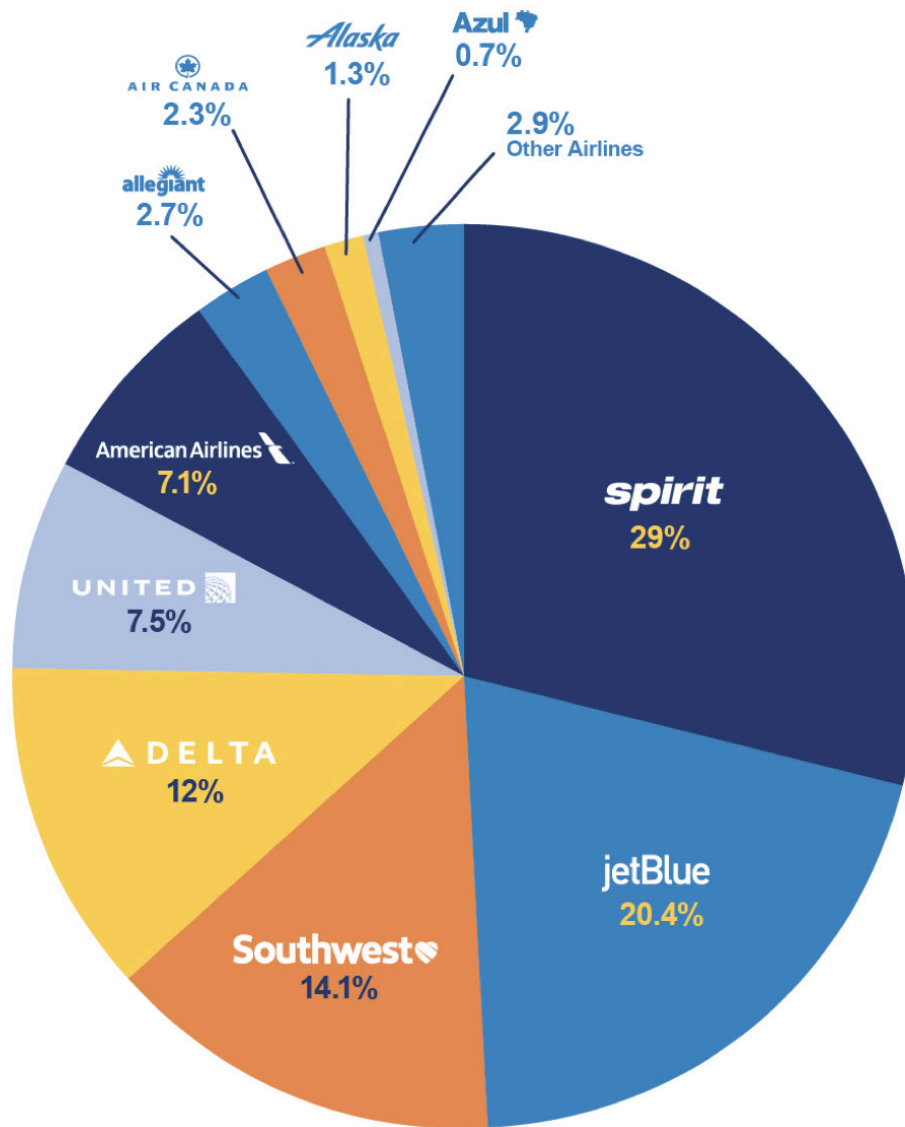
**UP 55%**  
OVER  
LAST  
YEAR





# Top 10 Airline Market Share

Year-to-date: January 2022





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