

# Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport September 2017

## Hurricane Irma Impacts September Passenger Traffic

Total passenger traffic for September was 1,782,393, down -9.4 percent over September last year. Domestic traffic was down -9.4 percent. International traffic was down -9.3 percent.

During the 11 days before and after Hurricane Irma, there were 2,861 flight cancellations. These cancellations had a significant impact on passenger traffic

## Lower Load Factors

Average load factors also contributed to the decrease in passengers. Load factors for September this year were considerably lower than last year. This could be due to the (possible) perception that the destination was impacted by the storm, i.e., loss of power, destruction, gas shortages, etc.

## Stimulus Package

To address this, the CVB targeted key feeder markets and created a stimulus package. The package includes a \$100 voucher with a three night minimum stay between now and 3/31/18. We are also reaching out to carriers to identify routes that might be under performing.

## Top Carriers' Load Factor and Passenger Traffic Down for the Month

The chart below shows the month-over-month decrease in passengers by FLL's top carriers. The chart also shows a month-over-month load factor comparison. Southwest stands out but they have been growing so rapidly that their impact was less severe. Scheduled seats for September for Southwest were up 58 percent.

Airline	2017	2016	% Change	LF This Year	LF Last Year
JetBlue Airways	480,496	559,234	-14%	0.78	0.82
Spirit Airlines	364,133	425,311	-14%	0.73	0.82
Southwest Airlines	344,352	316,032	9%	0.71	0.88
<b>Big 3 AVG</b>				<b>0.74</b>	<b>0.84</b>
Delta Air Lines	181,688	208,521	-13%	0.82	0.79
American Airlines	114,517	152,667	-25%	0.81	0.84
United	96,661	89,562	8%	0.81	0.87
Allegiant Air	30,681	35,819	-14%	0.70	0.85
Air Canada	25,050	31,510	-21%	0.80	0.85
Norwegian Air Shuttle	22,760	17,169	33%	0.84	0.92
Caribbean Airlines	16,684	16,878	-1%	0.75	0.56
Virgin America	16,420	22,247	-26%	0.74	0.86
<b>TTL</b>	<b>1,693,442</b>	<b>1,874,950</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>0.77</b>	<b>0.82</b>

## Irma Affects Islands

Scheduled service to Puerto Rico continues to be a combination of relief and schedule service. Airlines are adjusting service as changes occur on the island.

Additionally, service to St. Maartin (1 weekly departure) has been canceled until February 2018. Service to St. Thomas has been decreased from daily to twice weekly, also through February 2018.

We estimate total available scheduled seats for Puerto Rico, St. Maartin, and St. Thomas represent 3 percent of total available scheduled seats. The impact to passenger traffic for the remainder of the calendar year should be minimal.

## FLL Ranked #1

The most recent data from Airports Council International for August 2017 shows FLL:

- Fastest growing large hub airport for the 12 months ending August.
- Ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in international traffic for 12 months ending August.

## New Service

- Norwegian to Martinique on October 30th.
- JetBlue to Salt Lake City in November.
- JetBlue to Atlanta starting in March 2018.
- Delta to Salt Lake City in November.
- Allegiant to Milwaukee and Norfolk in November.
- Southwest to Punta Cana, San Jose, and Providenciales in November.
- Southwest to Aruba in March 2018.
- Azul to Belem, Brazil in December.
- Azul to Recife, Brazil in March 2018.

## Passengers Expected to Exceed 32 Million in 2017

Based on scheduled available seats and historical load factor data, we expect passenger traffic to exceed 32 million for 2017. This estimate includes the decrease in capacity for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.