

Welcome to NewsFLLash Issue #15

In this edition: BCAD marks Patriot Day 20th Anniversary, European teenage pilot visits FLL, Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program on tap, new Terminal 5 in development, and more.



Official Newsletter of Broward County's Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport



Mark E. Gale
CEO/Director of Aviation
Fort Lauderdale-
Hollywood International
Airport (FLL)

A Message From the CEO

Welcome to NewsFLLash Issue No. 15, and a return to our regular pre-pandemic monthly newsletter format offering readers more in-depth content about airport news and developments.

Since March 2020, we have published a shorter Special Edition newsletter to keep readers informed of pertinent information during the COVID-19 pandemic while focusing our efforts on mitigating its business impacts.

With summer over and fall on our doorsteps, we hope to see cooler seasonal weather by Halloween or Thanksgiving as we prepare for these popular annual traditions.

In 2021, while passenger traffic at FLL has increased month-over-month for most of the year, fueling a travel rebound to near 2019 levels, it is clear COVID-19 still has a tight hold on our nation and remains a significant public health concern.

In August, FLL welcomed 2.4 million visitors, a 17 percent decline from nearly 2.9 million in July as travel tapered off with summer's end and school's return. Year-to-date, some 18.6 million people have flown through FLL versus 11.2 million over the same eight months of 2020. In 2019, FLL welcomed 25.3 million travelers from January through August.

Therefore, as we steadfastly work to rebuild our airport economy from the staggering COVID-19 related business impacts suffered, we expect some challenges will persist until the pandemic is fully contained.

As we enter the last quarter of 2021, we remain hopeful that more Americans will be vaccinated to help eradicate the virus' grip on our communities and stem the loss of lives of colleagues, family, and friends.

In the meantime, let us stay positive and make time to celebrate cherished moments and every victory, no matter how small.

We hope you enjoy this issue. Happy reading!

Mark

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The Sky's the Limit

August passenger traffic slows after major July upswing

While passenger traffic in August dipped 17 percent from July's stellar performance of 2.9 million visitors, the month's visitation count still reflected a significant comeback (173 percent uptick) from the lows of 880,018 travelers in August 2020.

In July 2021, FLL received 2.89 million passengers, a decrease of only 8 percent versus pre-pandemic counts of 3.13 million travelers in July 2019, reflecting the year-over-year rebound in travel. Meanwhile, domestic passenger traffic in July climbed 5.8 percent vs. 2019, which marked the second consecutive month of growth for this segment.

Fueled by low fares, the lure of beaches, warm weather, and outdoor activities, domestic traffic has been taking off in 2021. However, international traffic continues to rebound slower due to ongoing pandemic-related travel restrictions, the uncertainty posed by increasing COVID infections driven by the Delta variant, and reduced airline service. For July, international traffic was down 45 percent compared to July 2019.

[View FLL Statistics](#)



Airport Job Fair a Success

The Broward County Aviation Department (BCAD) hosted its first major job fair for FLL at FLA Live Arena, the former BB&T Center in Sunrise, FL on September 29.

More than 26 employers representing the FLL airport community participated in the job fair from 9AM to 4PM. Participating FLL employers were seeking to fill more than 800 available positions at the airport. Businesses with vacancies

included airlines, restaurants, retail shops, rental car companies, government agencies, fixed base operators, and ground transportation providers.

More than 800 job seekers attended the job fair, which was a resounding success based on early indicators. Seven local TV stations and newspapers reported on the event, which helped spread the word to prospective job candidates across South Florida.



Patriot Day 20th Anniversary Commemoration

BCAD returned to an in-person commemoration this year to mark the 20th anniversary of Patriot Day on September 11. More than 100 airport employees and invited airport stakeholders attended the "FLL Will Never Forget" ceremony inside Terminal 1, Lower Level, at the airport's permanent 9/11 Memorial.

Two decades later, the reminder to "Never Forget" the thousands of innocent lives lost on that fateful day continues to resonate for us who work in aviation and understand the global impact of 9/11 on our industry. A 20th-anniversary commemorative coin and [video](#) featuring airport employees and aviation stakeholders reflecting on 9/11 were elements of this year's Patriot Day tribute.

FLL's permanent 9/11 Memorial displays artifacts from the attacks in New York City. The objects include a fragment of the World Trade Center's South Tower and a helmet of a New York firefighter who took part in the recovery efforts.

Speakers included Broward County Mayor Steve Geller, FLL CEO/Director of Aviation Mark E. Gale, Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Federal Security Director Jason Martin, U.S. Customs & Border Protection Acting Port

Security Director Jason Martin, U.S. Customs & Border Protection Acting Port Director Stephen Balog, and Broward County Sheriff Gregory Tony. Other Broward County government officials in attendance were Vice Mayor Michael Udine and Commissioners Lamar Fisher and Dale V.C. Holness.

Did you know that the [TSA was created](#) in response to the 9/11 attacks? Learn more about some of the [aviation-related security enhancements](#) made since September 11, 2001, courtesy of Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA).



Young Pilot Makes FLL Stop

FLL had a special visit on August 30, 2021, from 19-year-old Belgium-British teenager Zara Rutherford, who is attempting to become the youngest woman ever to fly solo around the world. If she succeeds, Rutherford will also become the youngest person to fly solo around the world in a microlight aircraft.

The young pilot is navigating the world (52 countries on five continents) in a [Shark Aero](#), high-performance ultralight aircraft manufactured in Europe that can reach a maximum cruising speed of 300 kilometers per hour or 186 miles per hour. The Shark Aero has a two-seat tandem configuration with retractable gear, smaller wing, variable-pitch propeller, and comfortable cockpit interior, according to the mission's [website](#).

Through her solo flight mission, besides promoting flying, Rutherford is aiming to raise awareness about opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics for girls and young women. Rutherford, who qualified as a pilot in 2020, is the daughter of two experienced pilots and has been flying since the age of four months. She departed Belgium on her solo flight on August 18 and expects to return to Belgium on October 11.



FLL Canines Shine on National Dog Day

Many thanks to the dedicated TSA and the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) canine teams for their work to help keep everyone safe at FLL. During a media event on National Dog Day, August 26, TSA K9 Brierley joined BSO's Daryl at FLL to show airport travelers and reporters a glimpse into their daily duties.

The TSA teamed up with BSO to demonstrate their working dogs' critical role in day-to-day airport security operations. According to the TSA, canine teams can be rapidly deployed and are considered one of the most efficient means of detecting explosive substances.

Approximately 1,000 working canine teams are assigned to law enforcement agencies like BSO, while TSA handles the others. Each canine team's dog and human handler undergo months of intensive training together at the TSA National Canine Training Center on the Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

The BSO canine teams at FLL generally work to identify explosive devices or materials, and the security agency's bomb squad uses canines to assist deputies and technicians in hazardous situations.



Destination & Airline Updates

More flights taking off

Several airlines are set to launch new year-round service or resume all-year/seasonal flights from FLL during fourth-quarter 2021, including the following:

- **Air Canada:** New service to Quebec City, Canada (11/19)
- **Allegiant:** New flights to Des Moines, IA (10/6); Fayetteville, AR (10/8); and to Sioux Falls, SD; Harrisburg, PA, and Peoria, IL (12/15)
- **Avelo:** New five-weekly flights to New Haven, CT (11/5)
- **Caribbean:** Twice-weekly flights to Kingston, Jamaica resume (12/7)
- **Flair:** New service to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, and Kitchener-Waterloo in Canada (10/31)
- **Southwest:** Resuming flights to Nassau, Bahamas and Providenciales, Turks & Caicos Islands (10/7); Cancun, Mexico, and Montego Bay, Jamaica (11/7)
- **Spirit:** Launching service to Manchester, NH (10/8); Milwaukee, WI (11/17); Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and Pensacola, FL (11/17)

[FLL Tenant Directory](#)



Terminal 5 Under Development

The Terminal 5 (T5) project at FLL is in the preliminary phase of the development pipeline. As currently proposed, T5 will be a two-level, five-gate domestic concourse with ticketing, baggage check/claim processing, security screening checkpoint, retail, and food/beverage concessions.

T5 will also feature interior/exterior support areas and public spaces, including two elevated pedestrian bridges. In addition, the new facility on the eastern side of Terminal 4 (T4) will have connecting walkways to T4.

In July 2021, JetBlue Airways signed an agreement to manage its construction. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners subsequently approved the document to move the project forward to its next stage if all continues as planned. JetBlue advertised a request for proposal solicitation for a project manager on August 20, which closed on September 17.



Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program

A new Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program (HDSP) is scheduled to launch at FLL by the end of October 2021. The mission of the HDSP is to provide a discreet way for adults and children with hidden disabilities to show they need additional support or just a bit more time with airport processes. The HDSP was developed to enhance the experience for guests and employees with hidden disabilities and to ensure that FLL employees can identify and discreetly provide additional assistance or extra care where needed.

Program participation is voluntary. Airport guests and employees may request free sunflower identifiers, such as lanyards and pins, via email at contactfll@broward.org.

In May 2016, Gatwick Airport in the United Kingdom was the first to launch the program. Learn more about the [HDSP](#).

FLL BY THE NUMBERS: AUGUST 2021

TOTAL TRAFFIC WAS
2,403,653

UP 173%
FROM AUGUST 2020

DOMESTIC
TRAFFIC
1,982,731

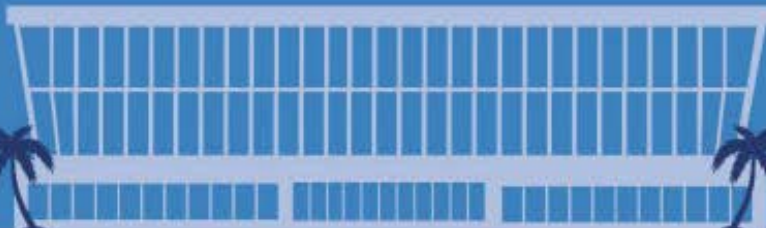


UP 161%
OVER LAST YEAR

INTERNATIONAL
TRAFFIC
420,922

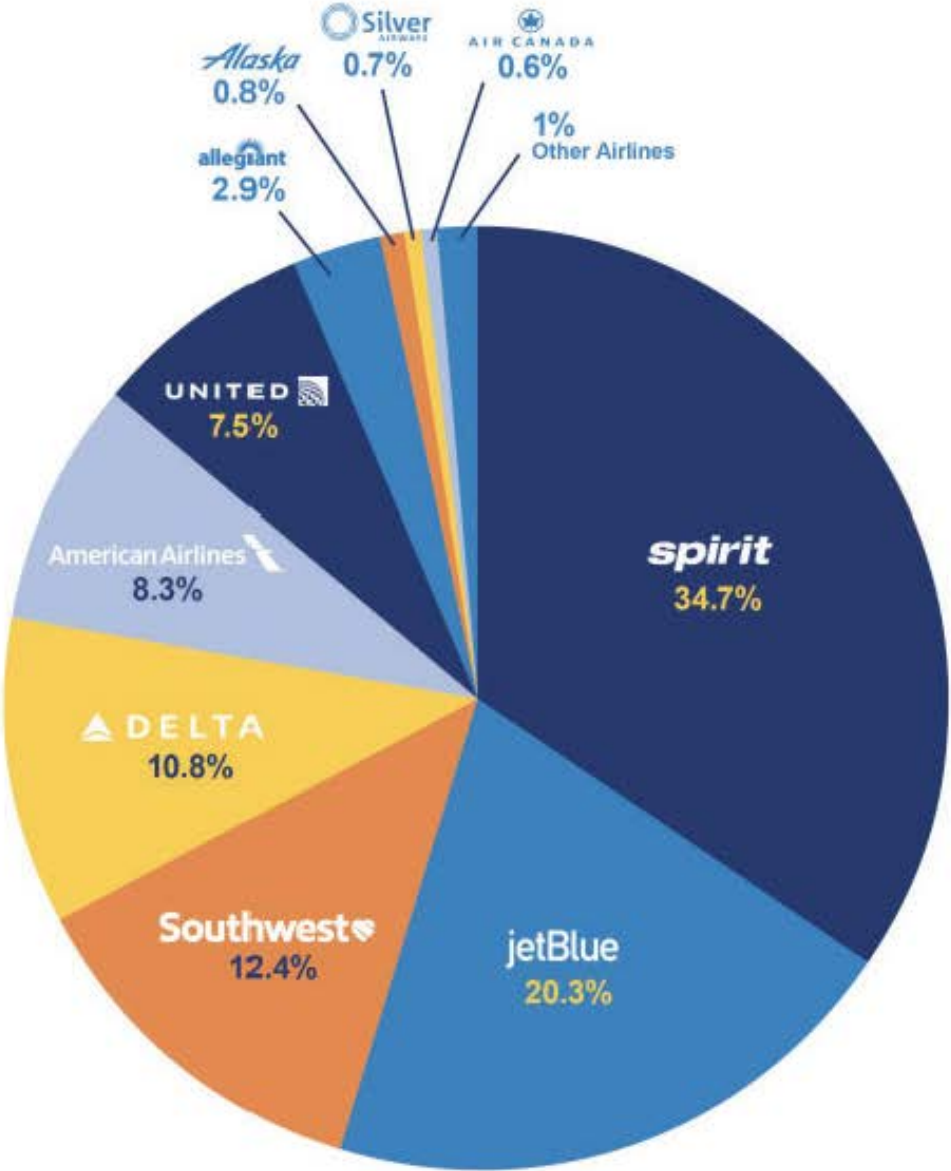


UP 252%
OVER
LAST
YEAR



Top 10 Airline Market Share

Year-to-date: August 2021



FLL's eNewsletter

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