

In this edition: Avelo Airlines touched down with first-time nonstop flights to New Haven, CT; sixth installment of employee art exhibition revealed, Winter Festival of Music is making a comeback, and more.



## **Mark E. Gale**

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

## **A Message From the CEO**

Welcome to NewsFLLash. We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day holiday filled with cherished new memories with family and loved ones. Thanksgiving is always a great opportunity to express our gratitude, count our blessings, and reconnect with family and friends, in addition to indulging in our favorite traditional meals.

The cooler temperatures have started to arrive in South Florida, fueling dreams of winter wonderlands at home or in far-off destinations. As

such, we expect more people to travel through FLL for year-end holiday festivities, long-awaited reunions, or some much-needed relaxation after another challenging year.

Here are six things that made our "thankful" list in 2021:

**Travel rebound:** Passenger activity is nearing pre-pandemic 2019 levels, with more people returning to the skies. Year-to-date through October, FLL has welcomed nearly 23.1 million travelers, only about 24 percent fewer than the 30.2 million who visited during the same 10-month period in 2019.

**Holiday music reboot:** After a year's hiatus due to the pandemic, FLL's annual Winter Festival of Music featuring choirs and bands from Broward County Public Schools is returning for its 33rd run, December 6-10, to offer seasonal cheer to guests traveling for the holidays. See the story below for more details.

**Airline debuts:** In the fourth quarter of 2021, FLL added two new airlines, Flair and Avelo. And a third new carrier – Western Air – could potentially touch down in December from the Bahamas.

**Nonstops to Europe:** If all goes well, FLL will again have nonstop service to Oslo, Norway, Paris, France, and London, England starting in summer 2022. This time it will be courtesy of Norse Atlantic Airways. Norse submitted an application in September to the U.S. Department of Transportation to operate flights between the U.S.



and Scandinavia. Since then, company executives have also touted additional plans for service to/from FLL to France and the United Kingdom.

**Keeping FLL travel-ready:** Efforts by our dedicated and hardworking Broward County Aviation Department (BCAD) employees to enhance the airport guest experience have been ongoing during 2021 despite the evolving pandemic. Modernization projects are nearing completion in Terminals 3 and 4; the majority of FLL concessions are now open and serving travelers; a handful of new shops have debuted, and others will arrive before year-end.

**Safeguarding FLL:** BCAD remains committed in its "Pack the Fun, Not the Gun" campaign efforts to prevent travelers from transporting weapons in carry-on bags through FLL's security screening checkpoints. The Aviation Department is also continuing its enhanced sanitization protocols to provide a safe, clean, and healthy environment at FLL as part of its "FLLy Safer, FLLy Smarter, FLLy Better" initiative. Additionally, BCAD is reminding travelers that, per Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules, passengers are not permitted to consume alcohol onboard planes that a flight attendant does not serve. This year, the aviation industry has seen an increase in unruly passenger incidents, and the FAA's "zero tolerance" policy against offenders includes hefty civil penalties. Airlines may also place unruly passengers on their "no-fly" lists. Let us all do our part to ensure a safe and friendly travel experience for everyone.

In closing, if you are traveling through FLL for the holidays, please remember to wear a face covering inside the airport, wash hands frequently, and social distance (whenever possible) to help curb the spread of COVID-19 and its variants. Although valet parking remains suspended, self-parking options are available across FLL's three parking garages and in the off-site overflow lot (when activated). We encourage passengers to allow enough time to park and undergo check-in and security screening processes, which typically take longer during peak travel periods. For travelers flying domestic, we recommend you arrive at FLL at least two hours before your flight and three hours if traveling internationally. International flyers should also be aware of the [new U.S. entry rules effective November 8 requiring foreign nationals \(non-U.S. citizens, non-U.S. immigrants\) traveling to the United States to be fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccinated status before boarding their flights. In addition, all international air travelers regardless of nationality, will need to show evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result for U.S. entry.](#)

Enjoy this issue of NewsFLLash.

From our family to yours, I wish you a healthy, happy, and safe holiday season.

*Mark*



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

### **October passenger traffic recap**

Approximately 2.36 million travelers flew in and out of FLL in October, an 87 percent increase from 1.25 million passengers for the same month in 2020. On the domestic side, passenger traffic rebounded 85 percent to 1.96 million travelers. Meanwhile, international traffic increased 96 percent to 400,114 passengers.

When compared to pre-pandemic travel volumes, the number of visitors in October were only 12 percent less than those that visited in October 2019. This year through October, FLL welcomed roughly 23.1 million visitors, an increase of nearly 73 percent over the same ten-month period in 2020.

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





## **Holiday Décor Is Up**

### **Seasonal decorations on display**

Can you hear the sleigh bells off in the distance?

It's definitely beginning to look a lot like the holidays around FLL. To usher in the festive season, the airport's four terminals and Rental Car Center (RCC) are decked out with holiday décor to get travelers and employees in a merry mood.

The holiday decorations are a precursor to visits in mid-December by Santa, Mrs. Claus, and an elf or two. The special North Pole visitors typically make pit stops at FLL to greet airport guests and spread holiday cheer. So, let's hope you made their nice list this year.

### **[About FLL](#)**





## Winter Festival of Music Returns

### Local students spread holiday spirit

The sounds of live holiday music will fill the air again at FLL in 2021.

After a pandemic-hiatus in 2020, the airport's popular Winter Festival of Music is returning for its 33rd edition, from December 6-10, from 9AM to Noon daily. This year's musical extravaganza will feature Broward County elementary, middle, and high school students in a variety of performances throughout the week.

The entertainment lineup includes bands, choirs, and roaming carolers. Band and choir performances will take place pre-security in Terminal 1 (lower level) and the RCC. Meanwhile, groups of carolers will entertain travelers waiting for flights throughout the post-security concourses in Terminals 1 and 4.

Stay tuned to the airport's official [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages for scenes from the heart-warming and inspiring musical showcase.





## Sixth Employee Art Exhibit Opens

**New exhibit runs through March 2022**

The sixth installment of FLL's employee artwork exhibition, "I Bet You Didn't Know (IBYDK)," opened recently and will be on display through March 17, 2022, in the walkway connecting Terminals 3 and 4.

The latest IBYDK exhibit features 48 artworks from 28 airport employees. The collection of diverse artworks include paintings, drawings, collages and acrylic pours, by artists whose jobs range from security personnel, vendor operators, flight attendants, to other professions.

IBYDK is a collaborative exhibition program presented by FLL and the Broward Cultural Division's Public Art & Design Program. The rotating exhibition, which debuted in August 2018, changes every six months. The art exhibit has been enthusiastically received by the airport community and visitors, and employee participation has increased.

We invite you to take a [virtual tour](#) of IBYDK 6.



Source: Bell

## **Bell Service Center Marks First Year**

### **New facility opened during pandemic**

The new 31,000 sq. ft. [Bell](#) customer service facility at FLL marked a year in operations this summer. The service center at 1750 SW 34th St. in Fort Lauderdale provides a full range of service solutions for current production commercial aircraft, including complex maintenance, repair, and overhaul services.

Bell officials say domestic and international customers benefit from its highly skilled staff of service engineers and maintenance technicians.

The facility features a 21,000 sq. ft. hangar, offices, maintenance shops, storage, and a large dedicated ramp area. Bell officially took occupancy of the new service center in August 2020.

Airside Fort Lauderdale began construction in February 2019 on the approximately \$8 million service facility for its tenant Bell. Fort Worth, Texas-based Bell is a manufacturer of helicopters, related spare parts, and services.





## **More Concessions Reopen**

More concessions have reopened recently at FLL in Terminal 1, Concourse A to serve travelers as airlines resume flights or start new service ahead of the busy year-end holiday season. Among the stores and eateries to reopen in the concourse were BurgerFi, Starbucks, CNN Newsstand, Tech on the Go, and 5th & Sunset.

Concourse A reopened in early October after temporarily closing in March 2020 due to the steep decline in passenger traffic during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, a new Tripadvisor retail store is now open serving jetsetters in Terminal 3, Concourse E. Tripadvisor made its debut on November 24 just in time for Thanksgiving Day. The store offers busy flyers a range of travel essentials and basics, snacks, beverages, magazines, and other travel convenience items.

**[View Airport Dine & Shop Options](#)**





## FLL Attends FITCE

The Florida International Trade and Cultural Expo (FITCE) recently concluded its sixth edition at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale. FITCE marked a return to an in-person format after going virtual last year due to the pandemic. The November 17-18 event, included seminars on trade and commerce and a World Expo Marketplace, which attracted more than 250 exhibitors and country delegations from 60 nations, organizers said.

FLL CEO/Director of Aviation Mark Gale offered welcome remarks and gave an airport update to attendees during the opening ceremony. Gale also participated in a panel discussion about doing business in the United States. During the expo, BCAD representatives fielded questions about FLL at the airport's booth.

Broward County hosted FITCE under the leadership of Commissioner Dale V.C. Holness. The conference provides a unique platform for attendees to interact with government leaders, global trade experts, and delegations, discussing international trade, foreign investment, and cultural issues.



In 2019, FITCE drew nearly 2,000 participants from more than 63 countries and 1,450 international and local businesses, and federal, state, and regional trade agencies. It was the most successful run in the event's history.

## Explore FITCE



## More Airline Services on Tap

A new carrier on the block, Avelo Airlines, touched down at FLL on November 5 with the first-ever nonstop service between Fort Lauderdale and New Haven, CT. The inaugural flight festivities at FLL included a water salute for the incoming flight from New Haven, a Visit Lauderdale gift bag for arriving passengers, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony with representatives from the airline, airport, and tourism bureau.

Other new or returning air service in 2021 and first-quarter of 2022, include:

- **Allegiant:** New flights to Sioux Falls, SD; Harrisburg, PA, and Peoria, IL (12/15)
- **Caribbean:** Twice-weekly flights to Kingston, Jamaica resume (12/7)
- **Frontier:** On November 30, the carrier announced its plan to return to FLL with daily and weekly flights to 12 U.S. cities starting in mid-February 2022.

## FLL Tenant Directory

# FLL BY THE NUMBERS: OCTOBER 2021

TOTAL TRAFFIC WAS  
**2,356,882**

**UP 87%**  
FROM OCTOBER 2020

DOMESTIC  
TRAFFIC  
**1,956,768**



**UP 85%**  
OVER LAST YEAR

INTERNATIONAL  
TRAFFIC  
**400,114**



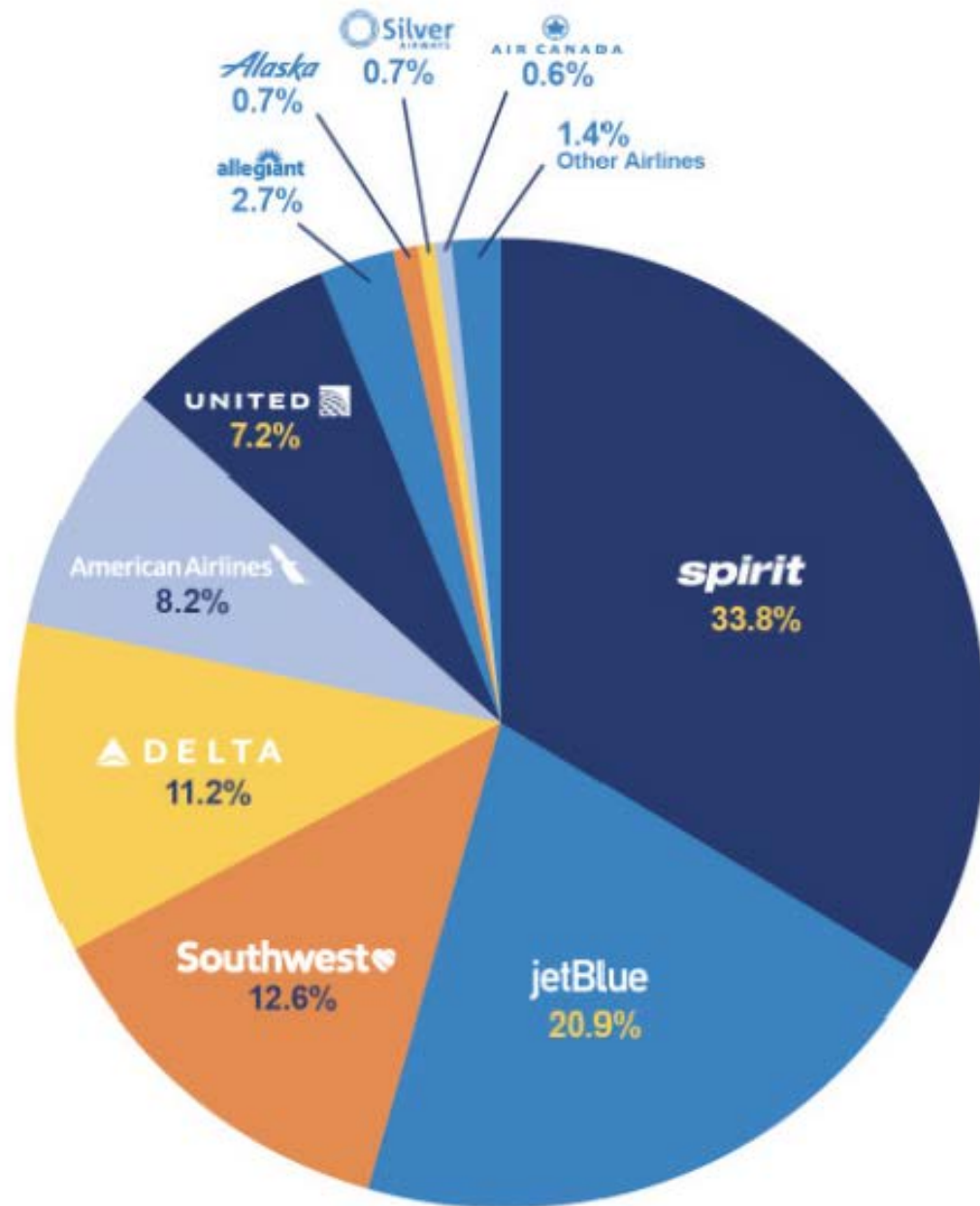
**UP 96%**  
OVER  
LAST  
YEAR





# Top 10 Airline Market Share

Year-to-date: October 2021



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