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January Domestic Airline Traffic Data Up 7.6 Percent From January 2004

U.S. airlines carried 7.6 percent more domestic passengers and flew 1.1 percent fewer domestic flights during January 2005 than they did during January 2004, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today, in a release of preliminary data (Table 1).

BTS, a part of DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that the airlines carried 47.5 million domestic passengers during January 2005, up from the 44.1 million in January 2004 (Table 2). These passengers were carried on 784,535 flights, down 1.1 percent from the 793,583 flights operated in January 2004 (Table 1).

In other domestic comparisons from January 2004 to January 2005 (Table 1):

Revenue passenger miles, a measure of the number of passengers and the distance flown, were up 8.0 percent.

Available seat-miles, a measure of airline capacity, were up 1.1 percent.

Load factor, a measure of how many seats are sold and used, was up 4.5 percentage points.

Flight stage length, the average non-stop distance, was up 2.8 percent.

Passenger trip length, the average distance passengers travel, was up 0.4 percent.

Among airlines, Delta Air Lines carried 6.2 million domestic passengers during January 2005, the most of any airline (Table 3).

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Among airports, Hartsfield-Jackson International in Atlanta was the busiest U.S. airport for domestic travel during January 2005, with 2.9 million passenger boardings (Table 4).

Additional airline traffic data can be found on the BTS website at TranStats, the Intermodal Transportation Database at <http://transtats.bts.gov>. Click on "Aviation," then "Air Carrier Statistics (Form 41 Traffic)," then "T-100 Domestic Market."

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with BTS by commercial air carriers detailing operations, passenger traffic and freight traffic. January traffic data are preliminary and include data received by BTS from 128 airlines as of April 12. Data are subject to revision.

Revised data from December 2004 and previous months are posted on the BTS website at <http://transtats.bts.gov>. BTS will release February 2005 traffic data on May 12.

Table 1: Domestic Airline Travel in January

	Jan. 2004	Jan. 2005	Change
Passengers	44,115,831	47,487,959	7.6%
Flights	793,583	784,535	-1.1%
Revenue Passenger Miles(000)	38,570,517	41,666,707	8.0%
Available Seat-Miles(000)	58,959,952	59,613,224	1.1%
Load factor	65.4	69.9	4.5
Flight stage length	600	617	2.8%
Passenger trip length	874	877	0.3%

Source: T-100 Domestic Market and Segment

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Table 2. Total Industry Domestic Enplanements

Month	2003	2004	2005	2004-2005 Change
January	43,340,260	44,115,831	47,487,959	7.6%
February	41,464,697	45,614,862		
March	50,387,437	54,512,538		
April	47,364,281	53,611,311		
May	49,413,135	53,294,962		
June	52,541,086	57,244,487		
July	56,150,080	59,953,094		
August	54,321,783	57,358,062		
September	44,577,207	47,899,898		
October	50,350,912	54,164,914		
November	47,455,664	51,556,167		
December	50,126,985	52,433,126		
Annual Total	587,493,527	631,759,252		

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

Table 3. Top 10 Airlines, ranked by January 2005 Domestic Enplanements

Jan. 2005 Rank	Airline Name	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2004 Rank	Jan. 2004
1	Delta Air Lines	6,186,057	1	5,814,214
2	Southwest Airlines	6,039,969	3	5,362,666
3	American Airlines	5,784,397	2	5,475,307
4	United Airlines	4,268,754	4	4,155,776
5	Northwest Airlines	3,380,779	5	3,090,278
6	US Airways	2,797,330	6	2,649,707
7	Continental Airlines	2,391,679	7	2,275,091
8	America West Airlines	1,571,489	8	1,466,865
9	American Eagle Airlines	1,128,404	9	936,147
10	SkyWest Airlines	1,121,385	10	897,539

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

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Table 4. Top 10 Airports ranked by January 2004 Domestic Enplanements

Jan. 2005 Rank	Airport Name	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2004 Rank	Jan. 2004
1	Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International	2,880,135	1	2,754,109
2	Chicago O'Hare International	2,163,030	2	2,030,736
3	Dallas-Fort Worth International	1,956,783	3	1,916,509
4	Los Angeles International	1,610,086	4	1,512,610
5	Las Vegas McCarran International	1,526,682	6	1,383,769
6	Denver International	1,505,287	5	1,423,301
7	Phoenix Sky Harbor International	1,465,455	7	1,365,700
8	Orlando International	1,286,161	9	1,118,759
9	Minneapolis-St. Paul International	1,194,903	8	1,130,961
10	Houston Bush Intercontinental	1,164,315	10	1,023,425

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

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