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**BTS Releases March Airline Traffic Data;
Domestic Enplanements rose 1.4 percent over March 2002;
Airline, Airport Rankings on Page 2**

U.S. airlines carried 49.2 million domestic passengers in March, a 1.4 percent increase over March 2002, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics of the U.S. Department of Transportation reported today in a release of preliminary data.

Domestic enplanements were 21.0 percent higher in March 2003 compared to February on all domestic flights operated by U.S. airlines. Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal factors.

Table 1. Industry Domestic Enplanements

Month	2001	2002	2003	% Change 2002 - 2003
January	44,107,354	38,557,439	43,033,511	11.6%
February	43,177,091	38,644,426	40,642,074	5.2%
March	53,054,589	48,501,883	49,186,170	1.4%
April	50,791,568	45,437,147		
May	51,119,648	47,113,247		
June	53,471,052	49,188,719		
July	55,802,826	51,153,752		
August	56,404,948	51,226,617		
September	30,546,412	40,223,881		
October	40,290,718	48,218,739		
November	40,691,635	44,103,368		
December	40,901,001	49,817,463		
Year to Date	140,339,034	125,703,748	132,861,755	
Annual	560,358,842	552,186,681		

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

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 on "Air Carrier Statistics (Form 41 Traffic)", then click on "T-100 Domestic Market."

Table 2. Top 10 Airlines, ranked by March domestic enplanements

	Airline Name	Airline Code	Mar-02	Feb-03	Mar-03	Mar-02 Rank
1	Delta Airlines, Inc.	DL	7,621,980	5,871,287	6,974,199	1
2	Southwest Airlines, Co.	WN	6,341,904	5,359,029	6,332,410	3
3	American Airlines, Inc.	AA	6,898,499	5,225,578	6,310,554	2
4	United Airlines, Inc.	UA	4,919,412	4,102,945	4,843,520	4
5	Northwest Airlines, Inc.	NW	3,884,558	3,117,397	3,907,410	6
6	US Airways, Inc.	US	4,313,415	2,636,579	3,321,963	5
7	Continental Airlines, Inc.	CO	2,944,301	2,182,741	2,686,997	7
8	America West Airlines, Inc.	HP	1,633,858	1,366,113	1,668,638	8
9	American Eagle Airlines, Inc.	MQ	1,041,865	867,613	1,027,069	9
10	Alaska Airlines, Inc.	AS	934,964	856,459	1,000,331	10

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

Table 3. Top 10 Airports ranked by March domestic enplanements

	Airport Name	Airport Code	Mar-02	Feb-03	Mar-03	Mar-02 Rank
1	Hartsfield International, Atlanta	ATL	3,076,660	2,558,792	3,053,796	1
2	O'Hare International, Chicago	ORD	2,234,756	1,983,688	2,294,897	2
3	Dallas-Ft. Worth International	DFW	1,987,640	1,592,420	1,982,687	3
4	Phoenix Sky Harbor International	PHX	1,452,811	1,294,913	1,630,496	5
5	Los Angeles International	LAX	1,623,008	1,350,673	1,597,787	4
6	Denver International	DEN	1,398,640	1,187,408	1,439,775	6
7	Las Vegas-McCarran International	LAS	1,386,463	1,188,642	1,429,637	7
8	Minneapolis-St. Paul International	MSP	1,251,048	989,572	1,246,362	8
9	Orlando International	MCO	1,128,958	908,027	1,163,844	11
10	George Bush Intercontinental, Houston	IAH	1,169,365	938,423	1,145,463	10

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

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Airline Traffic Monthly Release

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with the Bureau of Transportation Statistics by commercial air carriers detailing operations, passenger traffic and freight traffic. Reports from commuter carriers are included in data beginning October 2002 and were not included in earlier reports. March traffic data are preliminary and include data received by BTS as of June 3. Data are subject to revision.

Revised February data are posted on the BTS website at <http://transtats.bts.gov>.
BTS will release April traffic data on July 3.

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