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BTS 23-03 Thursday, October 9, 2003

BTS Releases June Airline Traffic Data; Domestic Traffic at Mid-year Down 6.4 Percent from Pre-September 11, 2001 Airline and Airport Rankings on Pages 3-4

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) today reported, in a release of preliminary data, that U.S. airlines carried 6.4 percent fewer domestic passengers during the first half of 2003 than in the first half of 2001 based on a year-to-year comparison of the airlines that reported traffic data in both years (Table 1).

Traffic was slightly down for the Continuously Reporting Carriers – the airlines operating large aircraft required to report traffic data before October 2002 – during the first six months of 2003 from the same period in 2002, when it was down sharply from 2001, the pre-Sept. 11 period (Table 1). Commuter and small certificated carriers began reporting traffic data in October 2002.

U.S. airlines carried 0.9 percent fewer domestic passengers in June 2003 than in June 2002, based on a year-to-year comparison of the airlines that reported traffic data in both months — the Continuously Reporting Carriers of Tables 1 and 2A.

All reporting U.S. airlines carried 52.4 million domestic passengers in June (Table 2). This number includes 48.4 million domestic passengers on Continuously Reporting Carriers and 4.0 million domestic passengers from the collection of commuter and small certificated carriers that began reporting in October 2002 (Table 2A).

Total domestic enplanements rose 6.0 percent in June 2003 from May 2003 for all domestic flights operated by U.S. airlines. (Table 2A). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal factors.

BTS is releasing separate numbers for the Continuously Reporting Carriers and the new group of reporting carriers to allow year-to-year comparisons with comparable data.

Among airlines, Delta Airlines carried 6.8 million domestic passengers in June 2003, exceeding by less than 45,000 the number of domestic enplanements on Southwest Airlines (Table 3).

Southwest's top ranking in May 2003 marked the first time a low-fare carrier had carried the most passengers in any month. The data do not include traffic of the major carriers' code-share affiliates (Table 3).

Among airports, Hartsfield International in Atlanta continued in June to be the busiest domestic airport, with 3.2 million passenger boardings (Table 4).

Tables 3 and 4 include the domestic enplanements for all reporting carriers, and not just the 'Continuously Reporting Carriers'.

Table 1: Domestic Enplanements for Continuously Reporting Carriers

Month	2001	2002	2003
January	42,025,318	38,289,080	40,455,338
February	41,182,023	38,349,185	38,577,523
March	50,475,846	48,118,770	46,831,187
April	48,353,380	45,075,254	43,801,449
May	48,646,620	46,722,147	45,599,662
June	50,862,941	48,767,929	48,351,342
Year to			
Date	281,546,128	265,322,365	263,616,501

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

Table 2. Total Industry Domestic Enplanements

Month	2001	2002	2003
January	44,107,354	38,557,639	43,408,638
February	43,177,091	38,644,477	41,268,377
March	53,054,589	48,500,814	49,688,631
April	50,791,568	45,436,187	47,357,227
May	51,119,648	47,115,819	49,396,924
June	53,471,052	49,190,603	52,374,082
July	55,802,826	51,178,594	
August	56,404,948	51,228,679	
September	30,546,412	40,218,486	
October	40,290,718	48,310,328	
November	40,691,635	44,258,619	
December _	40,901,001	49,875,563	
Year to			
Date	295,721,302	267,445,539	283,493,879
Annual _	560,358,842	552,515,808	

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

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Table 2A: Domestic Enplanements for New and Continuously Reporting Carriers

	Continuously	Carriers Reporting	Total
	Reporting Carriers	Beginning in Oct.	
		2002	
October 2002	44,968,920	3,341,408	48,310,328
November	41,023,393	3,235,226	44,258,619
December	46,454,326	3,421,237	49,875,563
January 2003	40,455,338	2,953,300	43,408,638
February	38,577,523	2,690,854	41,268,377
March	46,831,187	2,857,444	49,688,631
April	43,801,449	3,555,778	47,357,227
May	45,599,662	3,797,262	49,396,924
June	48,351,342	4,022,740	52,374,082

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 3. Top 10 Airlines, ranked by June 2003 Domestic Enplanements

Rank	Airline Name	May-03	June-03
1	Delta Air Lines, Inc.	6,337,258	6,823,463
2	Southwest Airlines, Co.	6,541,247	6,778,615
3	American Airlines, Inc.	6,218,797	6,548,796
4	United Airlines, Inc.	4,699,311	5,038,178
5	Northwest Airlines, Inc.	3,528,516	3,872,273
6	US Airways, Inc.	3,289,483	3,301,177
7	Continental Airlines, Inc.	2,628,289	2,797,292
8	America West Airlines, Inc.	1,665,788	1,708,504
9	Alaska Airlines, Inc.	1,083,729	1,246,523
10	American Eagle Airlines, Inc.	1,073,511	1,087,437

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

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Table 4. Top 10 Airports ranked by June 2003 Domestic Enplanements

Rank	Airport Name	May-03	June-03
1	Hartsfield International, Atlanta	3,002,209	3,179,782
2	O'Hare International, Chicago	2,435,878	2,611,702
3	Dallas-Ft. Worth International	1,968,273	2,082,058
4	Los Angeles International	1,613,782	1,788,154
5	Phoenix Sky Harbor International	1,546,386	1,564,345
6	Denver International	1,379,555	1,555,251
7	Las Vegas-McCarran International	1,382,424	1,422,488
8	Minneapolis-St. Paul International	1,173,065	1,354,227
9	Detroit Metro Wayne County	1,167,786	1,255,377
10	George Bush Intercontinental, Houston	1,139,820	1,226,224

Source: T-100 Domestic Market

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with the Bureau of Transportation Statistics by commercial air carriers detailing operations, passenger traffic and freight traffic. June 2003 traffic data are preliminary and include data received by BTS as ofOct. 6. Data are subject to revision.

Revised data from May and previous months are posted on the BTS website at http://transtats.bts.gov. BTS will release July traffic later in October.

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