

Appleton Airport Reports Strong March Travel Results

Appleton Leads Wisconsin Airports in Return to Travel

APPLETON, Wis. (April 21, 2021) – [Appleton Airport](#) saw a 23% increase in travelers compared to March of 2020. As northeast Wisconsin travelers begin to reclaim a sense of normalcy after one full year of pandemic restrictions, this growth is seen as a promising start to the year ahead for travel. With March typically one of the airport's busiest months in a non-pandemic year, the airport was thrilled to see over 57,000 travelers passing through its terminals this past month as travelers headed for warm, sunny destinations during Spring Break 2021 - a number comparable to pre-covid passenger counts.

In addition, all four airlines reported double-digit passenger increases, compared to March 2020; American Airlines posted a 107% increase. American added a daily flight to Charlotte, NC, in November 2020, and offers easy one-stop connections to Florida and Caribbean destinations. "We're seeing strong, pent-up travel demand for all our destinations," said Abe Weber, Appleton Airport Director, "Interest in travel to Florida was especially high this past month due to Allegiant offering six flights a week to Orlando. Seeing all the families and small children return to travel is really fun for our staff."

Looking forward, Appleton is proud to be the only Wisconsin airport to increase flights this spring, as compared to the airline industry's peak year of 2019. In May for example, Appleton shows a 3.2% flight increase.

Airport	Flights May 2021	Flights May 2019	Flights +/-	% Flights +/-
Appleton	606	587	19	3%
Eau Claire	62	62	-	0%
Rhineland	62	62	-	0%
La Crosse	179	207	(28)	(14%)
Green Bay	444	548	(104)	(19%)
Central Wisconsin	235	318	(83)	(26%)
Milwaukee	2,024	3,044	(1,020)	(34%)
Madison	823	1,361	(538)	(40%)

Source: Cirium Airline Schedule Data

In addition to its growth among Wisconsin-based airports, Boyd Group International, a leading aviation forecasting firm, has forecast Appleton as one of its Top 12 fastest growing airports for 2021, the only Midwest airport to make the list.

Weber believes that Appleton’s manufacturing base of essential industries, and the resulting full employment of the region, has kept people traveling throughout the pandemic. “We are lucky to serve a community that values its employees and businesses.”

2021 Airport Growth Leaders

Rank	Airport	City, State	2019	2021	2019-2021 Growth
1	SRQ	Sarasota, FL	967,346	1,572,621	62.6%
2	ACK	Nantucket, MA	133,994	199,371	48.8%
3	MYR	Myrtle Beach, SC	1,304,562	1,824,958	39.9%
4	ABI	Abilene, TX	83,523	113,043	35.3%
5	COS	Colorado Springs, CO	842,683	1,122,750	33.2%
6	EYW	Key West, FL	495,146	656,431	32.6%
7	VPS	Destin-Fort Walton Beach, FL	806,211	1,059,537	31.4%
8	JAN	Jackson, MS	525,626	632,170	20.3%
9	FAT	Fresno, CA	989,293	1,187,374	20.0%
10	BZN	Bozeman, MT	785,706	939,395	19.6%
11	ATW	Appleton, WI	380,879	448,194	17.7%
12	ABE	Allentown, PA	450,004	510,208	13.4%
13	MFR	Medford, OR	522,559	585,255	12.0%
14	SJU	San Juan, PR	4,523,571	4,924,341	8.9%
15	BOI	Boise, ID	2,059,935	2,216,000	7.6%
16	SAV	Savannah, GA	1,499,211	1,606,642	7.2%
17	MSO	Missoula, MT	445,402	473,503	6.3%
18	PSP	Palm Springs, CA	1,287,474	1,356,421	5.4%
19	RSW	Fort Myers, FL	5,584,927	5,877,428	5.2%
20	JAC	Jackson Hole, WY	437,975	458,047	4.6%
21	BIL	Billings, MT	474,762	496,465	4.6%
22	FAI	Fairbanks, AK	280,394	292,816	4.4%
23	GJT	Grand Junction, CO	268,029	275,828	2.9%
24	GTR	Columbus, MS	49,827	51,062	2.5%
25	BGR	Bangor, ME	300,281	307,671	2.5%

Source: 2021 enplanement projections, Boyd Group International Aviation Forecasting & Consulting

As airlines see continued strong demand out of Appleton, area travelers can expect more nonstop flights in the future.

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About Appleton International Airport

[Appleton International Airport](#) connects our community to the world through American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, and Allegiant Air. In addition to offering nonstop service to 14 destinations, Appleton Airport connects to five major international airport hubs from which travelers can fly to almost anywhere in the world. Using Appleton Airport, travelers can safely and more conveniently get to their destination and home again, leaving them more time for what really matters. Visit atwairport.com to learn more.