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Contact: Airports Authority Public Affairs Office, 703-417-8370

## Washington Airports Served 41.5 Million Passengers in 2006 *Reagan National Broke 2005 Record; New Air Service Boosted Dulles After Independence Air*

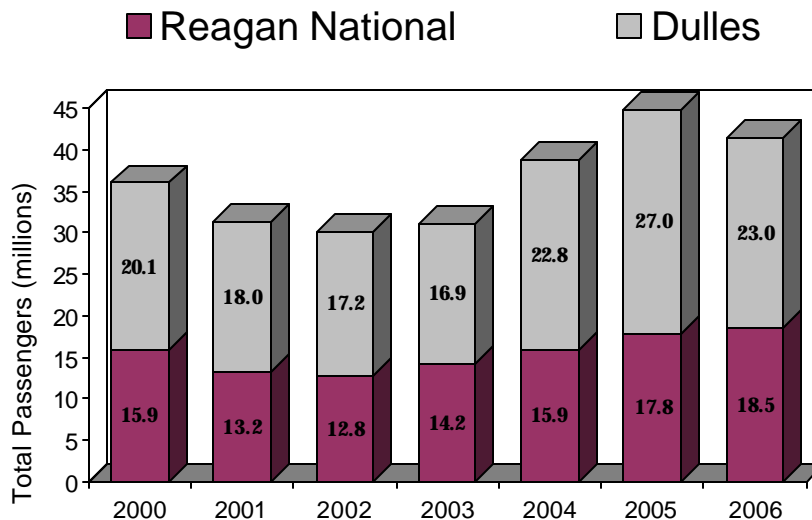
Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport set a new record for annual passengers in 2006 while Washington Dulles International Airport posted strong passenger numbers despite Independence Air ceasing operations in January 2006. Together, Washington's airports served 41.5 million passengers.

"Our 2006 numbers prove that strong demand for air service in the Washington region continues," said James E. Bennett, President and CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, which operates both Airports. "We had another exceptional year at Reagan National. Several airlines introduced new air service throughout the year at Dulles, replacing much of the service previously flown by Independence Air."

"We are looking forward to 2007 and will continue to work with our many airline partners to meet the domestic and international air service needs of our region."

Reagan National served **18.5 million passengers in 2006**. That is about a 4 percent increase over the record 17.8 million passengers served in 2005 and a 16 percent increase over 2004 when 15.9 million passengers were served. The Airport logged more than 276,000 total flight operations in 2006, about the same number as in 2005.

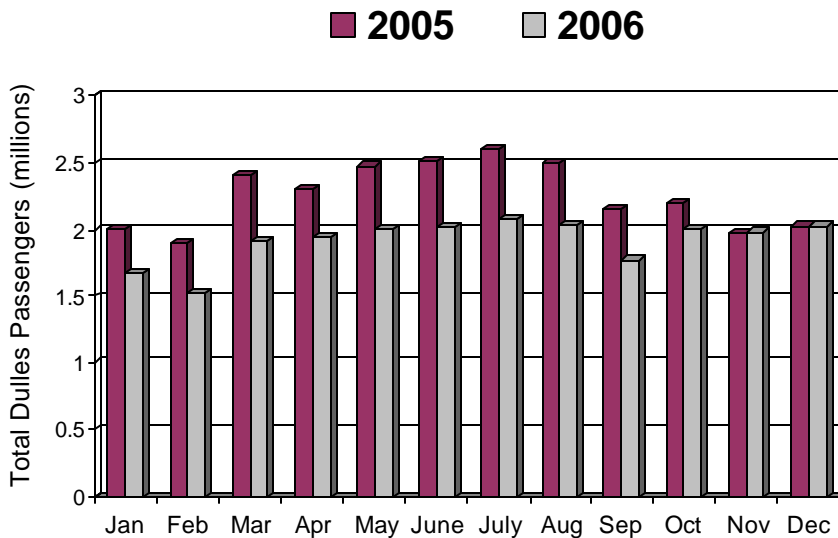
Dulles Airport served **23 million passengers in 2006**. That is a 15 percent decrease from the record 27 million passengers served in 2005, but a nearly 1 percent increase over the 22.8 million passengers served in 2004 and a 26.5 percent increase over the 16.9 million passengers served in 2003. Dulles logged more than 379,000 total flight operations in 2006, about a 25 percent decrease from 2005. The record number of flights and passengers in 2005 is attributed to the presence of Independence Air—the airline that introduced an unprecedented 600 new daily flights to Dulles at its peak—combined with the competitive response from other airlines.



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From January to October, monthly passenger numbers at Dulles dipped in 2006 compared to the same months in 2005. However, in November 2006, the Airport served 1.98 million passengers, slightly higher than the 1.97 million passengers served in November 2005 when Independence Air was operating. The number of passengers served in the month of December—about 2 million—was the same for both years, showing Dulles is returning to a steadier pace of growth following the 2005 spike.



Southwest Airlines launched service at Dulles in October, offering daily flights to four U.S. cities. JetBlue added new flights throughout the year to Boston, New York, Las Vegas and West Palm Beach. United Airlines added new flights to Florida and Tucson, and expanded the frequency of existing flights to 18 domestic destinations, including New York, Houston and Orlando. United also added new international flights to Tokyo and Kuwait, and plans to start flying to Rome this spring. Earlier this month, the U.S. Department of Transportation selected United Airlines to provide direct service from Dulles to Beijing, China, the first time the two capital cities will be linked by a direct flight. Service is expected to begin in March following final approval from the federal government.

“As air service and passenger volume grows at Dulles International, so must our Airport facilities,” Mr. Bennett said. “The Airports Authority continues to invest in improvements, completing several projects in 2006 to make traveling through our Airports easier for our customers.”

At Dulles, work continued on the D2, Dulles Development program, including construction of tunnels and stations for AeroTrain, the new underground train system scheduled to open in 2009. An AeroTrain exhibit opened in the Main Terminal in September giving passengers a preview of what the future of Dulles will look like. Work also started on the new 4<sup>th</sup> runway, which will allow the Airport to support predicted growth in air traffic and prevent aircraft delays. Work continues on a 12-gate addition to Concourse B and on roadway improvements in the north area of the Airport. New eateries opened throughout the year in every concourse, and Harry’s Tap Room—the first full-service restaurant located pre-security—opened in the Main Terminal in May.

At Reagan National, a new cell phone lot opened in July where motorists can wait for a call from arriving passengers. Valet Parking was introduced in November providing door-to-door service from the car to the terminal. Several new eateries opened, including Fuddrucker’s, Tidewater Landing, Cosi and Mayorga Coffee with several more slated to open in early 2007.