



DETROIT METRO • WILLOW RUN  
WAYNE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

# News Release

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## **Detroit Metropolitan Airport sees growth in passenger traffic**

*-- Airport urges travelers to allow more time for screening*

**DETROIT (April 1, 2016)** – Total passenger traffic at Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW) has jumped 8 percent for the first two months of 2016. This comes after a gain of nearly one million customers in 2015. The increase in passenger numbers and modified Transportation Security Administration (TSA) screening procedures are resulting in longer wait times at passenger screening checkpoints, particularly in the mornings when numerous flights depart.

“This trend is likely to continue as airlines add new non-stop service from Detroit, giving our customers more destinations from which to choose,” said Airport Authority CEO Thomas Naughton. “As DTW attracts more travelers, screening is taking a little longer. We urge everyone to plan ahead, so they make their flight.”

According to TSA, the early morning hours at DTW are the busiest times for passenger screening, especially between 6 and 9 a.m. In the month of March, officers screened 7.3 percent more passengers compared with the same month last year.

The airport continues to encourage travelers to arrive early, approximately 90 minutes for a domestic flight and two hours for an international flight. Passengers should also remember to check their carry-on bags for prohibited items before coming to the airport. Attempting to proceed through TSA screening with prohibited items will delay the process for everyone in line. A list of prohibited items for both carry-on and checked luggage is available at [tsa.gov](http://tsa.gov).

“Arriving early makes the travel experience easier, more enjoyable and allows our customers to enjoy the new shops, restaurants and amenities without rushing to their gate,” Naughton said.

Data provided by the airport’s Department of Financial Planning & Analysis shows in January, total passenger traffic increased 7.9 percent compared to January 2015. February traffic rose 8.1 percent over the same month the previous year, adding up to more than

4.8 million travelers through February 2016. That breaks down to 4.4 million domestic passengers and more than 426,000 international travelers. Total operations—landings and takeoffs—have risen 6.3 percent in the first two months of the year to over 60,500. Visit [wcaa.us](http://wcaa.us) for more detailed statistics.

***Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) welcomed more than 33 million passengers in 2015 and is one of the world's leading air transportation hubs. With service from 13 scheduled passenger airlines, Michigan's largest airport offers more than 1,100 flights per day to and from more than 140 non-stop destinations on four continents. With two award-winning passenger terminals, six jet runways, and an onsite AAA Four-Diamond Westin Hotel, DTW is among the world's most efficient, customer friendly and operationally capable airports in North America. DTW is operated by Wayne County Airport Authority, which also operates nearby Willow Run Airport – an important corporate, cargo and general aviation facility. The Airport Authority is entirely self-sustaining and does not receive tax dollars to support airport operations. Visit [www.metroairport.com](http://www.metroairport.com) for more information.***

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