



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NEW DATA: LAGUARDIA FINISHES LAST IN THE NATION FOR ON-TIME PERFORMANCE DURING 2016; JFK, NEWARK IN BOTTOM FIVE**

### *GGA Calls for Full Rollout of NextGen, Runway Expansion*

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY – New data shows that LaGuardia is once again the worst in the nation for flight delays in the first 8 months of the year. An analysis of the most up-to-date data from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics on the nation’s top 29 airports for passenger traffic shows that LaGuardia had the lowest on-time performance, followed closely by Newark and JFK (full tables below).

#### **KEY FINDINGS**

- LaGuardia had the lowest on-time performance of the nation’s major airports so far this year at 73%, followed by Newark in third-to-last place and JFK fourth-to-last.
- July was the worst month for delays so far this year at NY-NJ airports.
  - The percentage of flights operating on time dropped below 70% at all 3 airports for the month, approximately 10 points below their respective year-to-date performance averages.
- March was the highest performing month for the three airports; all rose in the rankings and on-time performance improved considerably.
- The leading cause of delays at all three airports by a wide margin is the National Aviation System, or the airspace, affecting approximately one in ten flights.

“Despite years of spending on terminals and runway improvements, our New York-New Jersey airports still lead the nation in flight delays, leaving passengers stranded on the runway or in the crowded airways circling our hubs.” **said Global Gateway Alliance Chairman Joe Sitt.** “The bottom line is more dramatic steps are needed to relieve the problem. It is past time for the FAA to fully implement NextGen in our airspace, where it’s most needed, and we must expand the runways at our airports.”

The national airspace as the primary cause for significant delays in New York and New Jersey demonstrates the continued need for better air traffic control technology, GGA argued. FAA has made progress in the area – digitizing pilot communications and introducing curved approaches – but the full benefits of these individual programs will only be realized when they work in concert with all the NextGen reforms which create a satellite positioning and navigation system for the skies. For example, curved landing approaches are used less than 1 percent of the time in New York.

GGA also pointed out that New York area airports are space constrained and need new runways to accommodate growing passenger volumes. The organization cited the Regional Plan Association 2011 air capacity study, which states that the failure to address the “unequivocal need for” runway expansion will result in “trips not taken, sales not generated, wages not earned, and jobs not created.”<sup>1</sup> The report

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<sup>1</sup> Jeffrey M. Zupan, Richard E. Barone, Matthew H. Lee, “Upgrading to World Class: The Future of New York Region’s Airports,” *Regional Plan Association* (January 2011): 155, <http://www.rpa.org/pdf/RPA-Upgrading-to-World-Class.pdf>.

set forth four programmatic proposals for runway expansion at JFK and one for Newark to boost operations and reduce delays in adverse weather with minimal noise and environmental impacts. The proposals recommend expanding runway access into Jamaica Bay at JFK and building a third western runway parallel to the existing two at Newark.

**Table 1 Ranking of Major Airport On-Time Arrival and Departure Performance Year-to-date through August 2016**

Rank	Jan 1 - Aug 31, 2015	%	Rank	Jan 1 - Aug 31, 2016	%
1	Atlanta, GA (ATL)	81.83	1	Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)	87.67
2	Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)	86.71	2	Portland, OR (PDX)	85.99
3	Portland, OR (PDX)	84.31	3	Seattle, WA (SEA)	85.04
4	Seattle, WA (SEA)	83.79	4	Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN (MSP)	84.72
5	Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN (MSP)	82.49	5	Detroit, MI (DTW)	84.50
6	Charlotte, NC (CLT)	81.58	6	Phoenix, AZ (PHX)	83.61
7	Phoenix, AZ (PHX)	80.78	7	Atlanta, GA (ATL)	83.50
8	Detroit, MI (DTW)	80.53	8	San Diego, CA (SAN)	82.57
9	San Diego, CA (SAN)	79.92	9	Washington, DC (IAD)	82.28
10	Tampa, FL (TPA)	78.96	10	Charlotte, NC (CLT)	82.08
11	Washington, DC (DCA)	78.70	11	Houston, TX (IAH)	81.99
12	Las Vegas, NV (LAS)	78.26	12	Denver, CO (DEN)	80.95
13	Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL)	77.68	13	Philadelphia, PA (PHL)	80.18
14	Orlando, FL (MCO)	77.35	14	Chicago, IL (MDW)	80.12
15	Philadelphia, PA (PHL)	77.07	15	Las Vegas, NV (LAS)	80.11
16	San Francisco, CA (SFO)	76.47	16	Tampa, FL (TPA)	80.11
17	Los Angeles, CA (LAX)	76.45	17	Baltimore, MD (BWI)	79.65
18	Houston, TX (IAH)	76.44	18	Orlando, FL (MCO)	79.26
19	Washington, DC (IAD)	76.42	19	Boston, MA (BOS)	79.14
20	Miami, FL (MIA)	76.36	20	Washington, DC (DCA)	78.88
21	Denver, CO (DEN)	76.08	21	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX (DFW)	78.34
22	Boston, MA (BOS)	75.77	22	Chicago, IL (ORD)	77.44
23	Baltimore, MD (BWI)	75.32	23	Los Angeles, CA (LAX)	76.98
<b>24</b>	<b>New York, NY (JFK)</b>	<b>75.22</b>	24	Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL)	76.54
25	Chicago, IL (MDW)	74.83	25	Miami, FL (MIA)	76.04
26	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX (DFW)	74.56	<b>26</b>	<b>New York, NY (JFK)</b>	<b>75.68</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>Newark, NJ (EWR)</b>	<b>72.74</b>	27	San Francisco, CA (SFO)	75.56
28	Chicago, IL (ORD)	72.16	<b>28</b>	<b>Newark, NJ (EWR)</b>	<b>75.30</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>New York, NY (LGA)</b>	<b>68.88</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>New York, NY (LGA)</b>	<b>72.66</b>

**Table 2 Ranking of Major Airport On-Time Arrival Performance Year-to-date through August 2016**

Rank	Jan 1 - Aug 31, 2015	%	Rank	Jan 1 - Aug 31, 2016	%
1	Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)	86.55	1	Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)	87.40

2	Atlanta, GA (ATL)	83.20	2	Atlanta, GA (ATL)	84.77
3	Seattle, WA (SEA)	83.03	3	Portland, OR (PDX)	84.68
4	Portland, OR (PDX)	82.85	4	Detroit, MI (DTW)	84.61
5	Charlotte, NC (CLT)	82.05	5	Seattle, WA (SEA)	83.94
6	Phoenix, AZ (PHX)	81.71	6	Phoenix, AZ (PHX)	83.68
7	Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN (MSP)	81.63	7	Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN (MSP)	83.65
8	Detroit, MI (DTW)	80.78	8	Charlotte, NC (CLT)	82.69
9	Las Vegas, NV (LAS)	80.00	9	Washington, DC (IAD)	82.51
10	San Diego, CA (SAN)	79.70	10	Chicago, IL (MDW)	82.41
11	Baltimore, MD (BWI)	78.66	11	Houston, TX (IAH)	82.16
12	Chicago, IL (MDW)	78.64	12	San Diego, CA (SAN)	82.01
13	Tampa, FL (TPA)	78.54	13	Denver, CO (DEN)	81.96
14	Washington, DC (IAD)	77.93	14	Las Vegas, NV (LAS)	81.19
15	Denver, CO (DEN)	77.86	15	Baltimore, MD (BWI)	81.12
16	Miami, FL (MIA)	77.34	16	Tampa, FL (TPA)	79.10
17	Houston, TX (IAH)	77.24	17	Philadelphia, PA (PHL)	79.05
18	Orlando, FL (MCO)	77.23	18	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX (DFW)	78.70
19	Washington, DC (DCA)	77.12	19	Orlando, FL (MCO)	78.65
20	Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL)	76.98	20	Chicago, IL (ORD)	78.40
21	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX (DFW)	76.19	21	Boston, MA (BOS)	77.44
22	Philadelphia, PA (PHL)	76.19	22	Los Angeles, CA (LAX)	76.71
23	Los Angeles, CA (LAX)	75.51	23	Washington, DC (DCA)	76.68
24	San Francisco, CA (SFO)	75.43	24	Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL)	76.41
<b>25</b>	<b>New York, NY (JFK)</b>	<b>74.77</b>	25	Miami, FL (MIA)	76.17
26	Boston, MA (BOS)	74.16	<b>26</b>	<b>New York, NY (JFK)</b>	<b>74.69</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>Newark, NJ (EWR)</b>	<b>73.83</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Newark, NJ (EWR)</b>	<b>74.58</b>
28	Chicago, IL (ORD)	73.81	28	San Francisco, CA (SFO)	73.47
<b>29</b>	<b>New York, NY (LGA)</b>	<b>67.22</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>New York, NY (LGA)</b>	<b>69.85</b>

**Table 3 Ranking of Major Airport On-Time Departure Performance Year-to-date through August 2016**

Rank	Jan 1 - Jul 31, 2015	%	Rank	Jan 1 - Jul 31, 2016	%
1	Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)	86.86	1	Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)	87.93
2	Portland, OR (PDX)	85.76	2	Portland, OR (PDX)	87.29
3	Seattle, WA (SEA)	84.55	3	Seattle, WA (SEA)	86.14
4	Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN (MSP)	83.34	4	Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN (MSP)	85.78
5	Charlotte, NC (CLT)	81.10	5	Detroit, MI (DTW)	84.39
6	Atlanta, GA (ATL)	80.45	6	Phoenix, AZ (PHX)	83.53
7	Detroit, MI (DTW)	80.28	7	San Diego, CA (SAN)	83.12
8	Washington, DC (DCA)	80.27	8	Atlanta, GA (ATL)	82.23
9	San Diego, CA (SAN)	80.13	9	Washington, DC (IAD)	82.05
10	Phoenix, AZ (PHX)	79.84	10	Houston, TX (IAH)	81.82

11	Tampa, FL (TPA)	79.38	11	Charlotte, NC (CLT)	81.47
12	Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL)	78.38	12	Philadelphia, PA (PHL)	81.30
13	Philadelphia, PA (PHL)	77.95	13	Tampa, FL (TPA)	81.11
14	San Francisco, CA (SFO)	77.50	14	Washington, DC (DCA)	81.07
15	Orlando, FL (MCO)	77.47	15	Boston, MA (BOS)	80.83
16	Los Angeles, CA (LAX)	77.39	16	Denver, CO (DEN)	79.94
17	Boston, MA (BOS)	77.38	17	Orlando, FL (MCO)	79.86
18	Las Vegas, NV (LAS)	76.51	18	Las Vegas, NV (LAS)	79.02
<b>19</b>	<b>New York, NY (JFK)</b>	<b>75.67</b>	19	Baltimore, MD (BWI)	78.18
20	Houston, TX (IAH)	75.63	20	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX (DFW)	77.97
21	Miami, FL (MIA)	75.37	21	Chicago, IL (MDW)	77.83
22	Washington, DC (IAD)	74.91	22	San Francisco, CA (SFO)	77.64
23	Denver, CO (DEN)	74.29	23	Los Angeles, CA (LAX)	77.24
24	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX (DFW)	72.93	24	Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL)	76.67
25	Baltimore, MD (BWI)	71.98	<b>25</b>	<b>New York, NY (JFK)</b>	<b>76.66</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>Newark, NJ (EWR)</b>	<b>71.65</b>	26	Chicago, IL (ORD)	76.47
27	Chicago, IL (MDW)	71.02	<b>27</b>	<b>Newark, NJ (EWR)</b>	<b>76.01</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>New York, NY (LGA)</b>	<b>70.53</b>	28	Miami, FL (MIA)	75.90
29	Chicago, IL (ORD)	70.50	<b>29</b>	<b>New York, NY (LGA)</b>	<b>75.47</b>

## METHODOLOGY

Delay information is sourced from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics and was analyzed on both a monthly and year-to-date basis. The 29 U.S. airports included each account for at least 1 percent of the nation’s total domestic scheduled-service passenger enplanements. A flight is counted “on time” if it operated less than 15 minutes after the scheduled arrival or departure time, and arrival and departure times are calculated from the arrival at or departure from the airport gate.<sup>2</sup>

## ABOUT GGA

Global Gateway Alliance (GGA) was established to address the major challenges facing the metropolitan region’s airports and related infrastructure that, if left unaddressed, will serve as a major impediment to the long-term growth of New York City and surrounding areas. By harnessing the expertise of leaders in business, government, academia, labor and other sectors, we seek to tackle these challenges head-on and serve as the leading advocate in an effort to improve our airports and facilitate the continued growth of the region. For more information regarding the Global Gateway Alliance, please visit [www.globalgatewayalliance.org](http://www.globalgatewayalliance.org). Follow GGA on Twitter @GGA\_NYNJ and ‘Like’ the organization on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/UsqxGw>.

GGA’s board of directors includes: **Joseph Sitt** (Chairman), CEO, Thor Equities; **Stuart Appelbaum** (Vice President), President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union; **Angelo Genova**, Founding Partner at Genova Burns and a former New Jersey Commissioner of the Port Authority; **Chris Giamo**, Regional President for TD Bank; **David Hopkins**, Senior Director of Aviation at the New York City Economic Development Corporation; **Jared Kushner**, Owner of Kushner Properties and the New York

<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Transportation Statistics:  
[https://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/sites/rita.dot.gov.bts/files/subject\\_areas/airline\\_information/airline\\_on\\_time\\_tables/index.html](https://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/sites/rita.dot.gov.bts/files/subject_areas/airline_information/airline_on_time_tables/index.html)

Observer; **George Miranda**, Teamsters' International Vice President; **Mitchell Moss**, Henry Hart Rice Professor of Urban Policy and Planning at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University; **William Rudin**, CEO of Rudin Management Company, Inc. and Chairman of ABNY; **Joseph Spinnato**, President Ex-Officio of the Hotel Association of New York City; **Alvin S. Trenk**, Chairman and CEO of Air Pegasus Corp; **Peter Ward**, President of the Hotel Trades Council on New York; **Tom Wright**, President of the Regional Plan Association; **Kathryn Wylde**, President of the Partnership for New York City, and **Tim Zagat**, Co-Founder and Co-Chair of Zagat Survey.

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