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Kyle C. Wanner, Executive Director
North Dakota Aeronautics Commission
(701) 328-9651

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ND Airports Experience Surge in Demand during Month of March

During a month that marks one year since the COVID-19 pandemic started to severely impact air travel; North Dakota's eight commercial service airports posted a total of 72,504 airline passenger boardings. This is an increase of almost 22,000 passengers from the previous month of February as Spring travel in North Dakota begins to take off.

This month experienced the highest level of passenger traffic that North Dakota has seen since the Covid-19 pandemic began; however, these passenger counts are still approximately 32% below the normal pre-pandemic levels seen in March of 2019.

The growth in passenger demand and optimism surrounding a recovery in the travel industry has prompted the airline industry to revive hiring plans as they continue to slowly add back flights and seat capacity to certain communities. The only non-stop destination route in North Dakota that was lost during the pandemic (Williston – Minneapolis) is now also expected to return as Delta Airlines announced its plans to add its route back to Williston this coming June.

"Optimism is building for the travel industry's recovery as airport parking lots are noticeably filling with vehicles and activity levels and passenger counts continue to trend in a positive direction," stated Kyle Wanner, Executive Director of the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission.



March Boardings Comparison of Commercial Service Airports

Prepared by: N.D. Aeronautics Commission
14-Apr-21

	March 2021	March 2020	March 2019	March 2018	March 2017	March 2016	March 2015	March 2014	March 2013	March 2012	Difference 2021/2020	% Change 2020 to 2021	Difference 2021/2019	% Change 2019 to 2021
Bismarck	18,217	14,453	27,623	22,293	23,204	23,324	21,200	20,378	22,162	19,112	3,764	26.04%	(9,406)	-34.05%
Devils Lake	508	357	466	533	633	566	370	0	154	214	151	42.30%	42	9.01%
Dickinson	685	1,182	1,579	1,614	1,384	1,245	3,698	3,923	1,491	2,188	(497)	-42.05%	(894)	-56.62%
Fargo	33,492	25,618	42,630	40,169	39,422	36,953	42,068	44,222	40,054	37,700	7,874	30.74%	(9,138)	-21.44%
Grand Forks	6,528	5,998	11,798	10,367	11,539	14,317	15,191	16,405	15,759	14,499	530	8.84%	(5,270)	-44.67%
Jamestown	830	590	958	1,028	1,266	962	678	0	227	448	240	40.68%	(128)	-13.36%
Minot	9,822	8,218	15,107	14,039	12,460	14,928	18,253	19,991	18,871	19,170	1,604	19.52%	(5,285)	-34.98%
Williston	2,422	4,405	6,868	5,764	5,794	5,232	9,627	9,872	7,492	3,005	(1,983)	-45.02%	(4,446)	-64.74%
TOTALS	72,504	60,821	107,029	95,807	95,702	97,527	111,085	114,791	106,210	96,336	11,683	19.21%	(34,525)	-32.26%



YTD Boardings Comparison of Commercial Service Airports

Through March

Prepared by: N.D. Aeronautics Commission

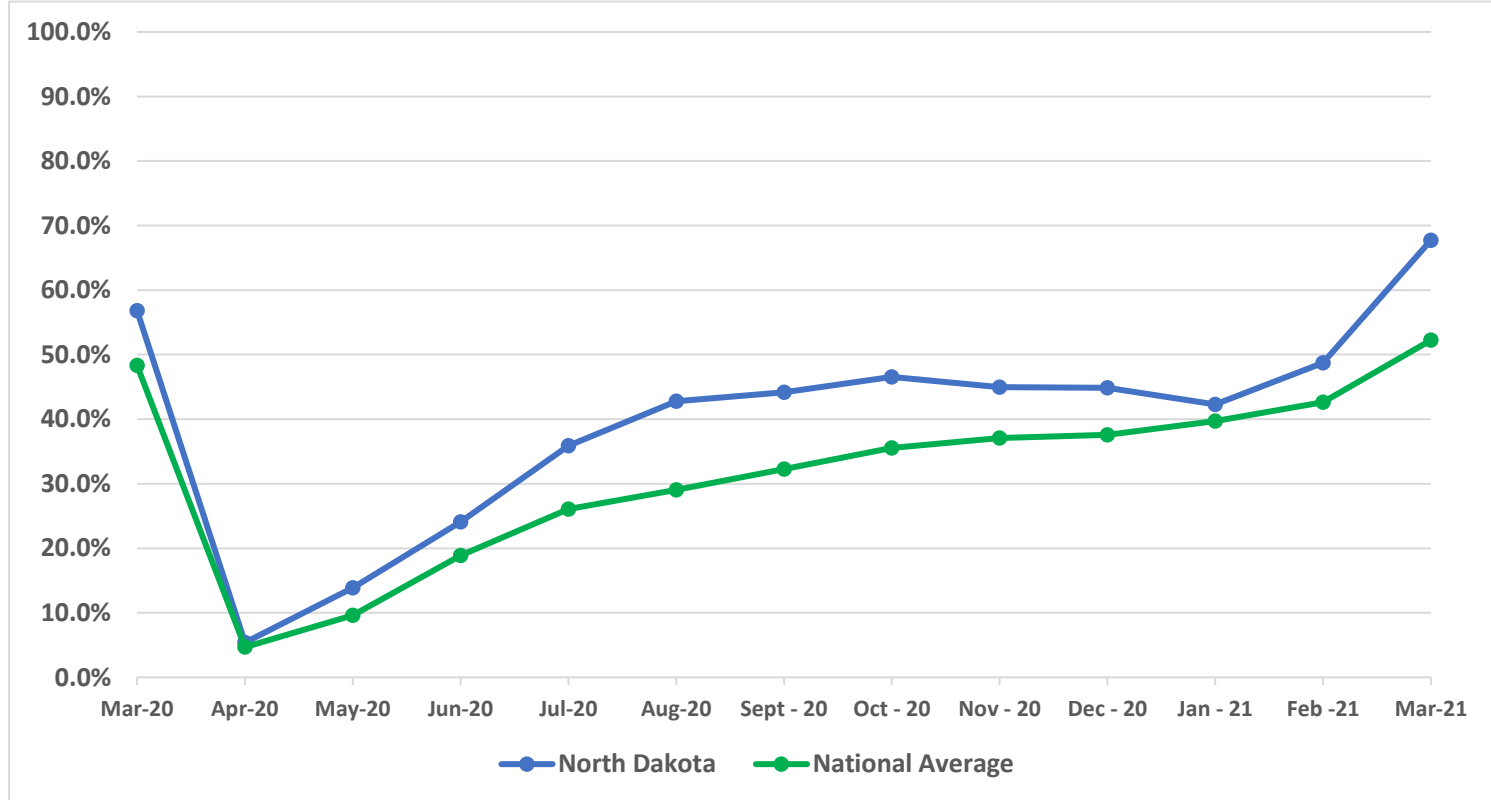
14-Apr-21

	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	YTD 2017	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	YTD 2012	Difference	% Change
Bismarck	42,055	66,274	73,805	63,787	64,264	65,026	62,728	58,938	61,196	52,372	(24,219)	-36.54%
Devils Lake	1,081	1,527	1,395	1,529	1,777	1,568	985	177	594	648	(446)	-29.21%
Dickinson	1,872	5,217	4,982	4,876	3,965	4,087	11,006	11,388	4,216	6,124	(3,345)	-64.12%
Fargo	75,520	114,120	117,665	110,846	107,649	105,278	116,441	119,989	107,572	99,905	(38,600)	-33.82%
Grand Forks	14,794	24,719	30,693	29,099	31,996	37,372	39,565	40,297	39,655	37,616	(9,925)	-40.15%
Jamestown	1,764	2,414	2,644	2,984	3,327	2,726	1,970	135	635	1,844	(650)	-26.93%
Minot	22,342	34,057	39,624	36,369	34,239	39,728	50,640	54,652	54,094	51,597	(11,715)	-34.40%
Williston	6,554	17,562	19,265	16,421	15,797	16,498	29,542	27,342	20,154	8,425	(11,008)	-62.68%
TOTALS	165,982	265,890	290,073	265,911	263,014	272,283	312,877	312,918	288,116	258,531	(99,908)	-37.57%
Commercial (BIS-FAR-GFK-MOT-WIL)	161,265	256,732	281,052	256,522	253,945	263,902	298,916	301,218	282,671	249,915	(95,467)	-37.19%
Regional (DVL-DIK-JMS)	4,717	9,158	9,021	9,389	9,069	8,381	13,961	11,700	5,445	8,616	(4,441)	-48.49%



Airline Enplanement Monthly Retention Rates North Dakota versus National Average *(Comparing each month to the same month in 2019)*

ND vs. TSA Enplanement Retention		
Month	ND	TSA
Mar-20	56.8%	48.3%
Apr-20	5.4%	4.7%
May-20	13.9%	9.6%
Jun-20	24.1%	18.9%
Jul-20	35.9%	26.1%
Aug-20	42.8%	29.0%
Sept - 20	44.2%	32.3%
Oct - 20	46.5%	35.6%
Nov - 20	45.0%	37.1%
Dec - 20	44.8%	37.6%
Jan - 21	42.3%	39.7%
Feb -21	48.7%	42.6%
Mar-21	67.7%	52.2%



National statistics were retrieved from TSA website: <https://www.tsa.gov/coronavirus/passenger-throughput>