Statistical Update on LAX Aircraft Operations

- East Departures
- Early Turns
- Go-arounds
- Palos Verdes Overflights

January 19, 2022

LAX/Community Noise Roundtable
The graphs below show a summary of aircraft operations departing to the east while the airport is still conducting westerly departures between midnight and 6:30 a.m. These individual easterly departures usually occur when the pilot of a heavy aircraft (e.g. B747s) determines that the tail wind is too great for the weight of the aircraft and requests to depart east into the wind for aircraft safety.
Early Turns

An "early turn" occurs when an aircraft on a westerly departure from any of the four LAX runways initiates a turn prior to reaching the shoreline that results in the aircraft flying over the community to either the north or south of the airport.

Annual Comparison

Monthly Comparison
Go-Arounds

Go-arounds usually occur when aircraft are unable to land on their first attempt and would have to circle back around to rejoin the arrival route to land at LAX. The graphs below provide statistics for the number of go-arounds at LAX.
Palos Verdes Peninsula – Turboprop Overflights

The graphs below show statistics of southbound turboprop aircraft that depart from LAX and fly over the Palos Verdes Peninsula, following an established FAA departure route.

Note: Prior to SkyWest’s fleet mix change (turboprop to jet aircraft) in early 2015, the number of southbound turboprop departures was about 800 per month, with around 300 aircraft flying over the PV Peninsula.
The graphs below show the total number of jets turning south upon departure from LAX and the number of those departures that fly over the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

Note: The increase in jet overflights in 2017 was due to FAA ATC vectoring aircraft to a new waypoint, CAHIL, located farther north than the previous SLI VOR location, that resulted in more overflights.
Turboprop Altitudes over PV Peninsula

Note: Most aircraft flying under 5,000 feet are Mokulele's Cessna C208 aircraft. An FAA altitude restriction is in place for this aircraft type due to its different performance capabilities.

Jet Altitudes over PV Peninsula