



# **LAX SPECIFIC PLAN AVIATION ACTIVITY ANALYSIS REPORT CY 2022**

**Prepared June 2023**

**Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)  
Specific Plan Compliance Review  
Aviation Activity Analysis  
January - December 2022**

**A. Purpose of this Report**

Per Appendix A, Subsection 1(b) of the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Specific Plan,<sup>[1]</sup> Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) is required to prepare and submit an annual Aviation Activity Analysis Report to the Board of Airport Commissioners, Los Angeles City Planning, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, and the Los Angeles City Council. The purpose of this report is: 1) to provide an analysis that identifies the current number of passengers, volume of air cargo, and aircraft operations served at LAX; and 2) to compile aviation activity statistics for other airports in the Los Angeles region for monitoring and reporting purposes. This Aviation Activity Analysis Report has been updated for the calendar year 2022.

**B. Summary and Conclusions**

The COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted the aviation and travel industry with 2022 showing continuing signs of recovery. Below is an overview of this report's analysis of LAX and regional air traffic for January through December of that calendar year:

- Preliminary data reported by individual airports indicates that LAX is the sixth busiest airport in the world by passenger volume and the fifth busiest in the United States.
- Passenger volume at LAX totaled approximately 65.29 million annual passengers (MAP) in 2022, a 37.32% increase compared to the previous year.
- Load factor for *departures* from LAX was 86.65% for domestic flights and 78.21% for international flights. This represents an increase in load factor of 7.46% for domestic flights and an increase of 29.60% for international flights when compared to 2021.
- Load factor for *arrivals* at LAX was 86.07% for domestic flights and 77.28% for international flights. This represents an increase in load factor of 7.18% for domestic flights and an increase of 26.62% for international flights when compared to 2021.
- Cargo volume at LAX totaled approximately 2.75 million tons in 2022, a 7.46% decrease from 2021.
- Commercial aircraft operations (landings and takeoffs) at LAX increased by 9.89% in 2022 to 556,913. This is up from 506,769 operations in 2021.
- LAX handled approximately 69.28% of passenger traffic among the seven commercial passenger Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) region airports in 2022, a 1.18% decrease from 2021.

---

<sup>[1]</sup> City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning, LAX Specific Plan, adopted January 20, 2005, last amended September 8, 2017.

**C. LAX Global and National Ranking**

**Table 1. Top 10 World Airports Ranked by Passenger Volume**  
(preliminary rankings as reported by individual airports, April 2023)

Global Rank	U.S. Rank	Airport	Location	Total Passengers
1	1	Hartsfield–Jackson Atlanta International	Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.	93,699,630
2	2	Dallas Fort Worth International	Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.	73,362,946
3	3	Denver International	Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.	69,286,461
4	4	O'Hare International	Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.	68,340,619
5		Dubai International	Dubai, U.A.E.	66,069,981
<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Los Angeles International</b>	<b>Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.</b>	<b>65,924,298</b>
7		Istanbul Airport	Istanbul, Türkiye	64,289,107
8		London Heathrow	London, United Kingdom	61,614,508
9		Indira Gandhi International	New Delhi, India	59,490,074
10		Paris Charles de Gaulle	Paris, France	57,474,033

Data Source: Airports Council International (ACI) – World



Image Credit: Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA).

**D. LAX Air Traffic Activity**

LAWA reports air traffic activity on a monthly basis and keeps an archive of this activity online at <https://www.lawa.org/en/lawa-investor-relations/statistics-for-lax>. The subpages entitled “Air Traffic Ten Year Summary” and “Volume of Air Traffic” provide air passenger, air cargo, and aircraft operations activity statistics for LAX for the calendar year 2022.

**E. LAX Passenger Volume**

As shown below in Figure 1, LAX passenger volume totaled approximately 65.29 million annual passengers (MAP) in 2022, a 37.32% increase compared to 2021. International passenger volume was approximately 16.52 MAP in 2022, a 107.40% increase compared to 7.97 MAP in 2021. Domestic passenger volume was up 23.37% compared to 2021, from approximately 40.04 MAP in 2021 to 49.40 MAP in 2022.

**Figure 1. LAX Annual Passengers 2012-2022**



Data Source: LAWA, Financial Management Systems, Revenue Agreement Management System (aka PROPworks™).

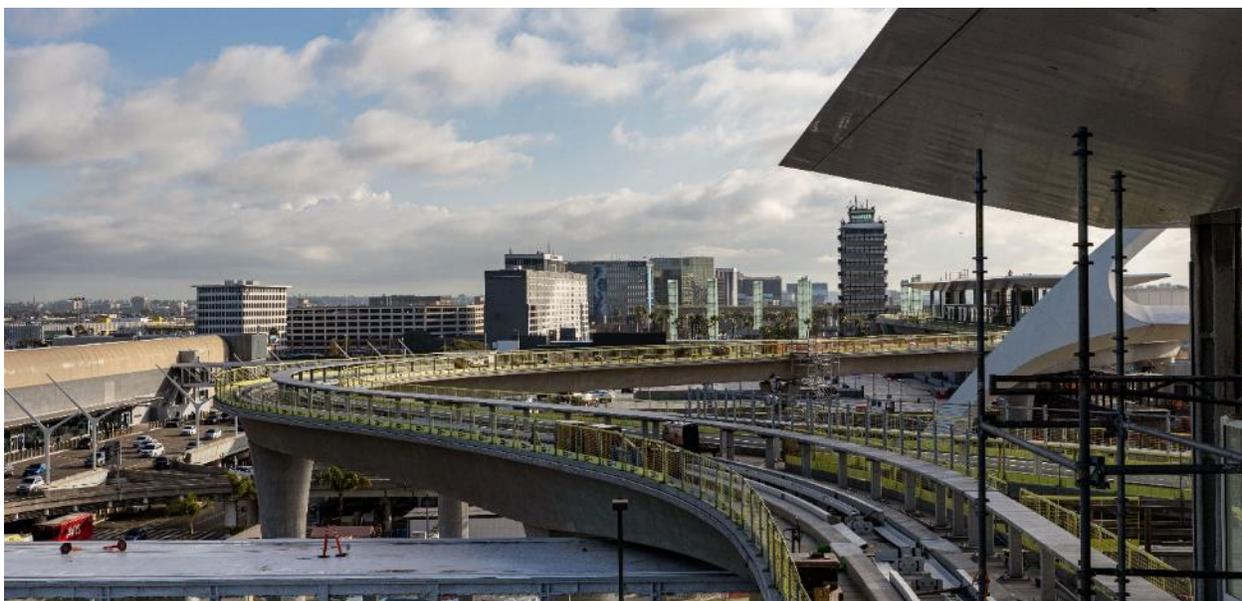
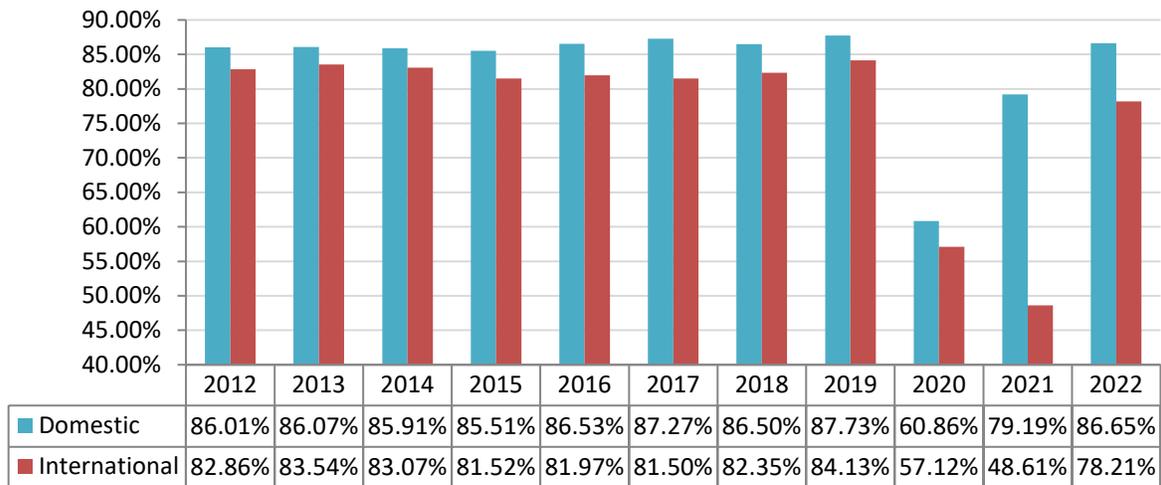


Image Credit: Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA).

## F. Load Factor

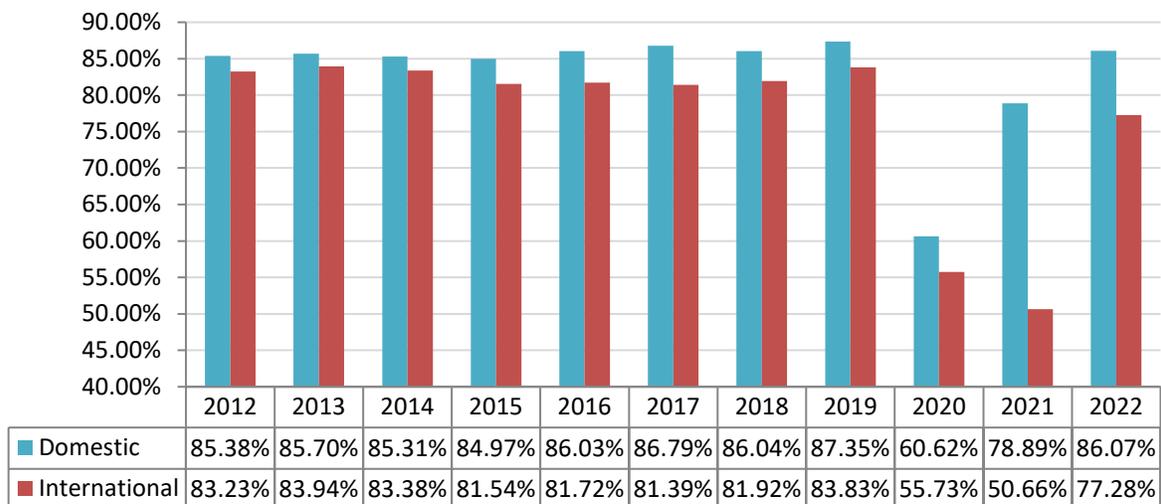
Load factor is the proportion of available seats filled per aircraft that measures how much passenger carrying capacity is used. Load factor is calculated by dividing Revenue Passenger Miles<sup>[2]</sup> by the Available Seat Miles.<sup>[3]</sup> Figure 2a below shows the change in load factor for aircraft departing LAX for the past decade, while Figure 2b shows the change in load factor for aircraft arriving at LAX for the same timeframe. In 2022, the load factor for departures from LAX increased by 29.60% for international flights and increased by 7.46% for domestic flights. For arrivals to LAX, the load factor increased by 26.62% for international flights and increased by 7.18% for domestic flights when compared to 2021.

**Figure 2a. Load Factor for Departures from LAX 2012-2022**



Data Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics T-100 Segment Data

**Figure 2b. Load Factor for Arrivals to LAX 2012-2022**



Data Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics T-100 Segment Data

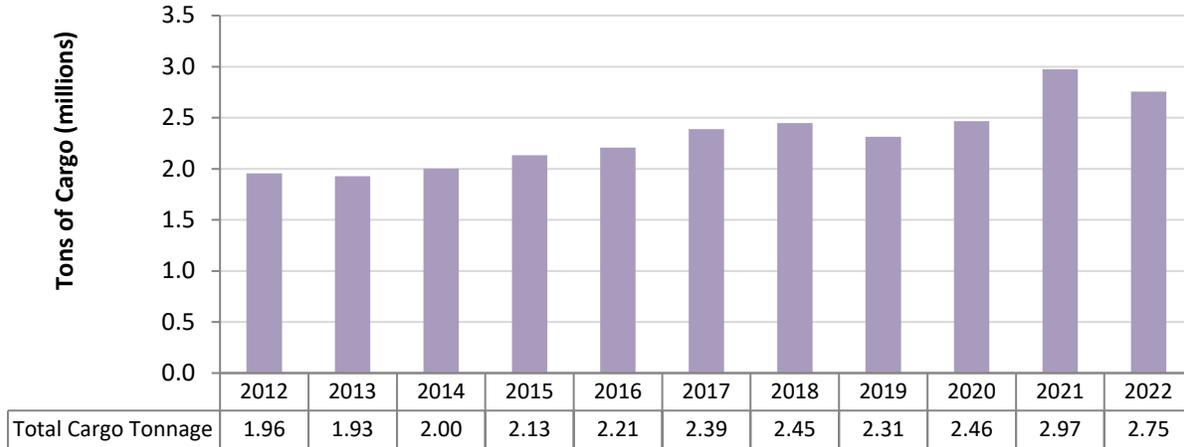
<sup>[2]</sup> Revenue Passenger Miles show the number of miles traveled by paying passengers. It is calculated as the number of paying passengers on a flight multiplied by the total distance traveled.

<sup>[3]</sup> Available Seat Miles is the total passenger capacity of an airline in miles and is captured by multiplying the total number of seats available on a flight and the total number of miles in which those seats were flown during scheduled flights.

## G. LAX Cargo Volume

Cargo volume in 2022 totaled approximately 2.75 million tons, a 7.46% decrease compared to 2021. Figure 3 below shows historical cargo volumes for LAX over the past ten years.

**Figure 3. LAX Annual Cargo Tonnage 2012-2022**

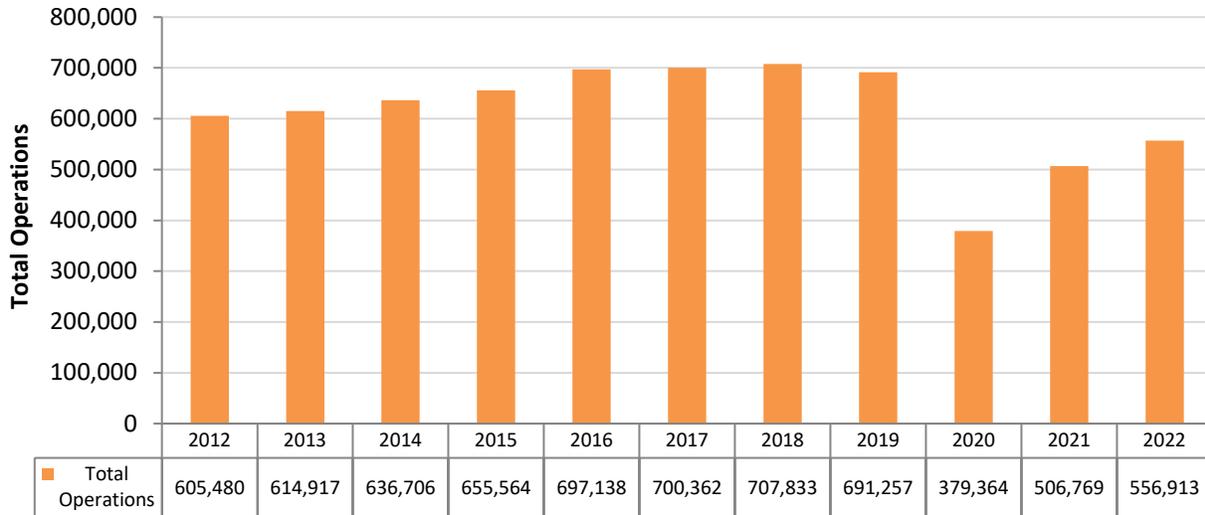


Data Source: LAWA, Financial Management Systems, *Revenue Agreement Management System* (aka PROPworks™).

## H. LAX Aircraft Operations

Figure 4 below shows the change in aircraft operations activity at LAX for the past decade. The number of aircraft operations (landings and takeoffs) totaled 556,913 in 2022, up 9.89% from 506,769 aircraft operations in 2021.

**Figure 4. LAX Annual Operations 2012-2022**



Data Source: LAWA, Financial Management Systems, *Revenue Agreement Management System* (aka PROPworks™).

**I. Aviation Activity in the SCAG Metropolitan Planning Region**

There are currently seven commercial passenger airports in the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) metropolitan planning region:<sup>[4]</sup>

- 1) Hollywood Burbank Airport (BUR)
- 2) Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)
- 3) Long Beach Airport (LGB)
- 4) Ontario International Airport (ONT)
- 5) Palm Springs International Airport (PSP)
- 6) San Bernardino International Airport (SBD)
- 7) John Wayne Airport (SNA)

These airports served approximately 95.16 million annual passengers in 2022 (up approximately 39.66% from 68.13 million annual passengers in 2021) and approximately 4.35 million tons of cargo/mail in 2022. The seven SCAG region commercial passenger airports had about 1.54 million aircraft operations in 2022. LAX handled approximately 69.28% of regional passenger volume among the seven airports in 2022.

The tables below summarize 2022 and 2021 air passengers, cargo/mail tonnage, and aircraft operations totals by airport in absolute numbers (Table 2) and by percentage of total (Table 3).

**Table 2. 2022 and 2021 Aviation Activity at SCAG Region Commercial Passenger Airports**

Airport	2022			2021		
	Passengers	Cargo/Mail (Tons)	Total Operations	Passengers	Cargo/Mail (Tons)	Total Operations
BUR	5,898,736	44,571	142,611	3,732,971	53,935	125,429
LAX	65,924,298	2,754,570	556,913	48,007,284	2,974,073	506,769
LGB	3,242,831	15,849	316,842	2,104,696	16,401	334,767
ONT	5,740,593	851,924	109,014	4,496,592	890,383	103,167
PSP	2,981,844	215	61,643	2,092,943	209	58,137
SBD <sup>[5]</sup>	10,202	669,428	46,610	-	-	-
SNA	11,360,839	17,068	303,970	7,700,489	18,312	311,684
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,159,343</b>	<b>4,353,625</b>	<b>1,537,603</b>	<b>68,134,975</b>	<b>3,953,313</b>	<b>1,439,953</b>

Data Sources: Individual airport statistical reports, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Traffic Activity Data System (ATADS), and SCAG.

**Table 3. 2022 and 2021 Aviation Activity at SCAG Region Commercial Passenger Airports (by percentage of total)**

Airport	2022			2021		
	Passengers	Cargo/Mail (Tons)	Total Operations	Passengers	Cargo/Mail (Tons)	Total Operations
BUR	6.20%	1.02%	9.27%	5.48%	1.36%	8.71%
LAX	69.28%	63.27%	36.22%	70.46%	75.23%	35.19%
LGB	3.41%	0.36%	20.61%	3.09%	0.41%	23.25%
ONT	6.03%	19.57%	7.09%	6.60%	22.52%	7.16%
PSP	3.13%	<0.01%	4.01%	3.07%	0.01%	4.04%
SBD	0.01%	15.38%	3.03%	-	-	-
SNA	11.94%	0.39%	19.77%	11.30%	0.46%	21.65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

<sup>[4]</sup> The SCAG region encompasses Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial counties.

<sup>[5]</sup> SBD began commercial passenger service in 2022. This airport was not tracked in prior reports.

Table 4 below shows each airport's share of regional air passenger traffic from 2002 to 2022.

Table 4. Share of Passenger Activity at SCAG Region Commercial Passenger Airports from 2002-2022 (by percentage of total) <sup>[6]</sup>								
Year	LAX	BUR	LGB	ONT	PSP	SBD <sup>[7]</sup>	SNA	Regional Total
2002	72.2%	5.9%	1.9%	8.4%	1.4%	-	10.2%	100.0%
2003	69.7%	6.0%	3.6%	8.3%	1.6%	-	10.8%	100.0%
2004	70.5%	5.7%	3.4%	8.1%	1.6%	-	10.8%	100.0%
2005	69.6%	6.2%	3.4%	8.2%	1.6%	-	10.9%	100.0%
2006	69.6%	6.5%	3.1%	8.0%	1.7%	-	11.0%	100.0%
2007	69.3%	6.6%	3.2%	8.0%	1.8%	-	11.1%	100.0%
2008	70.5%	6.3%	3.4%	7.3%	1.8%	-	10.6%	100.0%
2009	71.5%	5.8%	3.7%	6.2%	1.9%	-	11.0%	100.0%
2010	72.5%	5.5%	3.7%	5.9%	1.8%	-	10.6%	100.0%
2011	73.7%	5.1%	3.7%	5.4%	1.8%	-	10.3%	100.0%
2012	74.2%	4.7%	3.7%	5.0%	2.0%	-	10.3%	100.0%
2013	75.4%	4.3%	3.3%	4.5%	2.0%	-	10.4%	100.0%
2014	76.2%	4.2%	3.0%	4.4%	2.1%	-	10.1%	100.0%
2015	76.7%	4.0%	2.6%	4.3%	1.9%	-	10.4%	100.0%
2016	77.3%	4.0%	2.7%	4.1%	1.9%	-	10.0%	100.0%
2017	76.8%	4.3%	3.4%	4.1%	1.9%	-	9.5%	100.0%
2018	76.3%	4.6%	3.4%	4.5%	2.0%	-	9.3%	100.0%
2019	75.6%	5.1%	3.1%	4.8%	2.2%	-	9.2%	100.0%
2020	73.0%	5.0%	2.7%	6.4%	3.2%	-	9.6%	100.0%
2021	70.5%	5.5%	3.1%	6.6%	3.1%	-	11.3%	100.0%
2022	69.3%	6.2%	3.4%	6.0%	3.1%	<0.1%	11.9%	100.0%

Data Sources: Individual airport's statistical reports, FAA ATADS, and SCAG.



Image Credit: Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA).

<sup>[6]</sup> Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth and may not add to 100% due to rounding.

<sup>[7]</sup> SBD began commercial passenger service in 2022. This airport was not tracked in prior reports.