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## **Des Moines Airport Authority Announces Record-Breaking 2017 Passenger Traffic**

*Growth Pressures Existing Facilities, Underscores Need for Continued Improvements*

**Des Moines, Iowa (Jan. 25, 2018)** – The Des Moines Airport Authority has released its 2017 passenger statistics, showing an overall increase in traffic of 3.8 percent year over year. This rate of growth is consistent with past years – with a total of 2,578,308 passengers in 2017 alone – but is inching ever closer to the existing airport facilities’ maximum capacity.

“Year after year we have seen a similar increase in passengers coming through the airport,” says Kevin Foley, executive director, Des Moines Airport Authority. “Though our current facilities are not equipped to handle this sustained growth, the Des Moines Airport Authority is committed to improving the passenger experience, preparing for new airport facilities and remaining the gateway to Iowa our travelers have come to know and enjoy.”

Each month of 2017 saw a percentage increase of the total number of passengers when compared to the same month in 2016, except for September which saw a modest decrease of 0.9 percent. Though the most popular travel month was June, with a total of 237,347 passengers (5.9 percent more than June 2016), March saw the largest jump in passengers with a 7.7 percent increase compared to March 2016’s total (226,534 in March 2017 v. 210,298 in March 2016).

More than a half-dozen airlines served Des Moines International Airport in 2017. In the month of December, the passenger airline market share was dominated by American (29 percent), Delta (24 percent) and United (21 percent).

The Des Moines International Airport also recently unveiled amenity improvements in the form of new restaurants and concessions, including Berk & Chester’s, Hudson, Arugula & Rye, Milly Supply Co. and Portermill. To learn more about the Des Moines Airport Authority’s proposed improvements to the existing airport facilities to accommodate this continued growth, visit the [Terminal Site Study Plan](#) on the DSM website.

### **About the Des Moines Airport Authority**

The Des Moines Airport Authority is an independent entity that oversees the operations and maintenance of the Des Moines International Airport. The Airport Authority works to improve the quality of air service and make air travel to and from Des Moines more convenient and pleasurable. For

more information, visit [www.dsmairport.com](http://www.dsmairport.com) and follow [@dsmairport](https://twitter.com/dsmairport) on Twitter and [DSM International Airport](https://www.facebook.com/DSMInternationalAirport) on Facebook.

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