

projected airport delays and traffic levels.

Donald W. Bright,

*Director, Office of Airline Information,
Bureau of Transportation Statistics.*

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Agency Information Collection; Activity Under OMB Review; Report of Passengers Denied Confirmed Space—BTS Form 251

AGENCY: Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics invites the general public, industry and other governmental parties to comment on the continuing need for and usefulness of DOT requiring U.S. and foreign air carriers that operate scheduled passenger service with large aircraft to submit reports on their oversales practices. Large aircraft are aircraft designed to carry over 60-seats. Carriers submit the quarterly Form 251 "Report of Passengers Denied Confirmed Space." Carriers do not report oversales of inbound international flights because the protection provisions of 14 CFR part 250 do not apply to these flights. The Department uses Form 251 to monitor the compliance by U.S. and foreign air carriers to the oversales provisions of Part 250.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by November 21, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be directed to: Office of Airline Information, K-25, Room 4125, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001, FAX NO. 366-3383 or EMAIL bernard.stankus@bts.gov.

Comments

Comments should identify the OMB # 2138-0018. Persons wishing the Department to acknowledge receipt of their comments must submit with those comments a self-addressed stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: Comments on OMB # 2138-0018. The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bernie Stankus Office of Airline Information, K-25, Room 4125, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 400 Seventh

Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001, (202) 366-4387.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

OMB Approval No.: 2138-0018.

Title: Report of Passengers Denied

Confirmed Space.

Form No.: BTS Form 251.

Type Of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Large U.S. and foreign air carriers.

Number of Respondents: 120.

Number of Responses: 480.

Total Annual Burden: 2,220 hours.

Needs and Uses: BTS Form 251 is a one page report on the number of passengers holding confirmed space that were voluntarily or involuntarily denied boarding. Carriers must report whether the bumped passengers were provided alternate transportation and/or compensation, and the amount of the payment. The report allows the Department to monitor the effectiveness of its oversales rule and take enforcement action when necessary. The involuntary denied-boarding rate has steadily decreased over the years from 4.38 per 10,000 enplanements in 1980 to 1.08 for the first six months of the year 2000. This decrease occurred at a time when air carrier load factors have increased. These statistics demonstrate the effectiveness of the Avolunteer* provision, which has reduced the need for more intrusive regulation.

The rate of denied boarding can be examined as an air carrier continuing fitness factor. This rate provides an insight into a carrier's policy on treating overbooked passengers and its compliance disposition. A rapid increase in the rate of denied boardings often is an indicator of operational difficulty.

Because the rate of denied boarding is published in the *Air Travel Consumer Report*, travelers and travel agents can select carriers with low bumping incidents when booking a trip.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Agency Information Collection; Activity Under OMB Review; Domestic Cargo Transportation—Part 291

AGENCY: Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics invites the general public, industry and other governmental parties to comment on the continuing need for and usefulness of DOT requiring domestic all-cargo carriers, that do not submit Form 41 reports, to file Form 291-A A Statement of Operations and Statistics Summary for Section 41103 Operations* pursuant to 14 CFR 291.42. Form 291-A is used to monitor air-cargo activity on all-cargo flights.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by November 21, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be directed to: Office of Airline Information, K-25, Room 4125, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001, FAX NO. 366-3383 or E-MAIL bernard.stankus@bts.gov.

Comments

Comments should identify the OMB # 2138-0023. Persons wishing the Department to acknowledge receipt of their comments must submit with those comments a self-addressed stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: Comments on OMB #2138-0023. The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bernie Stankus Office of Airline Information, K-25, Room 4125, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001, (202) 366-4387.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

OMB Approval No. 2138-0023.

Title: Domestic Cargo Transportation Part 291.

Form No.: BTS Form 291-A.

Type Of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Certificated all-cargo air carriers.

Number of Respondents: 1.

Number of Responses: 1.

Total Annual Burden: 12 hours.

Needs and Uses: BTS Form 291-A financial data are reviewed in connection with an air carrier's operations when concerns arise as to a carrier's financial condition as evidenced by reported losses. Data comparisons are made between current and past periods in order to assess the current financial position. Financial trend lines are extended into the future to evaluate the continued viability of the air carrier.

Commercial all-cargo activity data are used by the FAA in estimating the excise tax paid by shippers and held by