



Salt Lake City
Department of Airports

**February 2021
Media Clippings**

Advisory Board Meeting

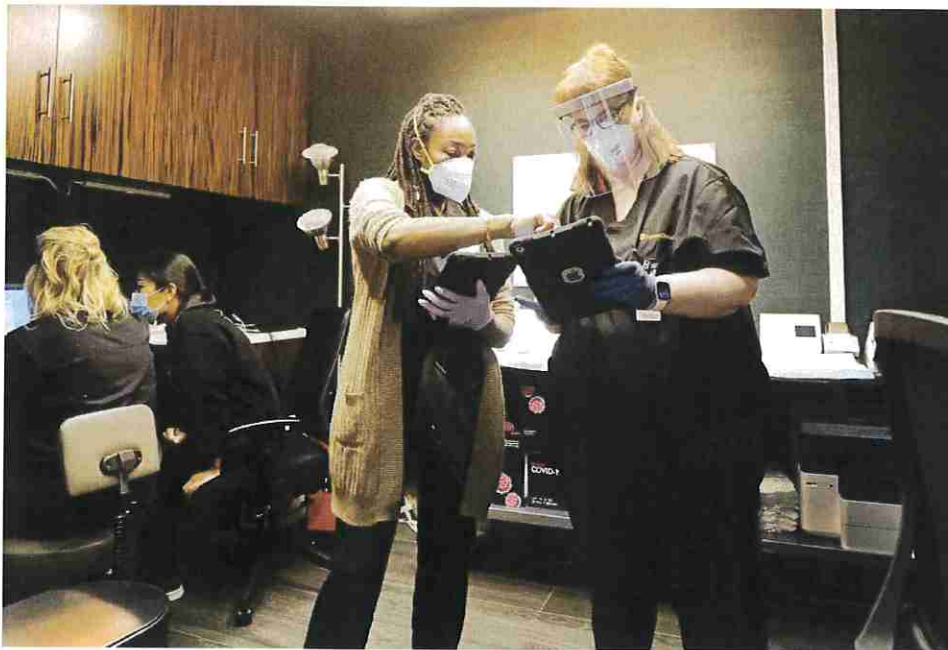
Compiled by Communication & Marketing Dept.

SLC Airport News

UTAH BUSINESS SALT LAKE COUNTY

New airport COVID-19 testing lets travelers avoid mandatory quarantines

By Jasen Lee | @JasenLee1 | Jan 20, 2021, 2:38pm MST



Lolanna Eiland and Stephanie Amador prepare to test a sample as XpresCheck opens a COVID-19 testing site at the Salt Lake City International Airport in Salt Lake City on Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021. The location offers rapid molecular COVID-19 tests and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests. | Jeffrey D. Allred, Deseret News

SALT LAKE CITY — The coronavirus outbreak has created an added wrinkle for air travel, with many states and countries requiring quarantine periods or recent negative test results for entry. But a new COVID-19 testing service at Salt Lake City International Airport can ensure travelers don't have to stay in lockdown once they reach their destination.

For Cornell University student Michaela Thomas, who was awaiting a connecting flight on her way for a two-week visit to see her sister in Hawaii, the ability to show

proof of a negative COVID-19 test is a great relief that prevents her from having to self-isolate upon arrival in the Aloha State.

“If you don’t receive a negative test before you leave, you have to quarantine for 10 days, but if you receive a negative test before departure, you’re allowed to bypass the quarantine,” she said. “This is a great thing to have, especially if you do get tested at home and you don’t get your results in time. You’re able to still travel and not be held up in a city.”

“It’s a huge sense of relief. I thought I was going to have to spend another night in Salt Lake City waiting for my results from back home, so this is awesome.”

Health and wellness company XpresSpa Group, in conjunction with airport officials, Wednesday announced the opening of an XpresCheck COVID-19 testing site at the airport. The pop-up facility is housed within the former XpresSpa location in Concourse A. The converted facility is equipped with four testing rooms with an expected ability to provide more than 300 tests per day.

“It was a significant business pivot for us coming out of spa and wellness treatments,” explained Scott Milford, the chief operating officer for XpresSpa Group. “We provide two types of testing at the Salt Lake City location — we do polymerase chain reaction test or PCR, that’s kind of the gold standard of COVID testing where they do a deep nasopharyngeal.”

“Once they’re taken, the samples get sent out to a lab for processing and the results are (available) usually within two to four days depending on volume,” he said. “We also do a rapid nasal swab test, which is another nasopharyngeal swab. That test is actually put into a machine (on location) where it is molecularly amplified and they can give you a result within about 15 minutes.”

The rapid test retails for \$200 and is not covered by health insurance, while the PCR test costs \$75 and is covered by most insurance plans, he said. These services are available to all airline passengers as well as all airport employees, including airline employees, contractors and workers, concessionaires and their employees, TSA officers and U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents, a news release stated.

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XpresSpa operates COVID-19 testing sites in seven locations in the U.S.: Denver, Phoenix and Salt Lake City in the West, along with two locations at Boston Logan International Airport as well as Newark and their original testing facility at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City.

U.S. Air Force Airman Calie Lewis, who is stationed in Great Britain and also traveling on holiday to Hawaii, said she was pleasantly surprised to come across the testing facility in the airport.

“It was crazy because I just got off my flight to walk to my gate and I was thinking, ‘Where am I going to go?’ I know I’m going to have to get my test there and have to wait for it,” she said. “So literally getting off a flight and seeing this here was awesome. Hawaii is really strict on its COVID testing and who they’re allowing (the results) from and this (company) is the last one on the list, so it all worked out.”

She said being able to get the rapid test and the results so quickly is a big relief not having to worry about quarantining during her visit.

“Absolutely, because now I can go have fun and be able to walk into the airport and just have my test results readily available rather than just like saying, ‘Hey, I’ll quarantine for 10 days’ and then missing out on an entire vacation.”

She mentioned that despite the added expense of the rapid test, having peace of mind during her travels was well worth the cost.

“We live in a new time now, so you have to kind of put that in your budget and know that you’re going to have to pay a little extra to go anywhere,” Lewis said. “So if I know that I’m going to have to spend the \$200 to get a test, then I know to put that in my budget beforehand so I’m not struggling to get to the vacation. That’s what it comes down to.”



New business at Salt Lake airport offers rapid COVID-19 tests to travelers

by Ginna Roe, KUTV
Wednesday, January 20th 2021

AA

SALT LAKE CITY (KUTV) — Shaping the future of travel, a new business at the Salt Lake International Airport aims to bring safety and peace of mind to travelers.

XpresCheck, formerly XpresSpa, is now offering COVID-19 testing for any ticketed passenger or airport or airline staff.

“Hopefully we can rebuild some of the confidence that was lost because of the virus and get people traveling again,” Scott Milford, Chief Operating Officer for XpresSpa Group said.

XpresSpa had 23 pop-up massage and wellness centers in 23 airports across the United States and overseas. When the pandemic hit, the company was forced to come up with a new business plan.

“When COVID hit, we were deemed a non-essential business and we had to close all of our spas,” Milford said.

Now the idea of airport COVID-19 testing was born. They now have seven locations and are growing. Travelers can make an appointment ahead of time or walk in to be tested.

“If they’re between flights, running from one terminal to another they can actually come in and get tested and at least get the peace of mind that they’re either infected with the virus, hopefully not, or that they have a negative test,” Milford said.

They offer two types of tests, PCR and Rapid. The PCR test costs \$75 and is covered by most insurance companies. The rapid test cost travelers \$200 which is a point of care charge.

Kevala Jokiel got a rapid test on Wednesday. He was traveling from Utah back to his home in Honolulu, Hawaii. In order enter Hawaii, he must have proof of a negative test or quarantine for 10 days.

LIVE

30°

46°

36°



New business at Salt Lake airport offers rapid COVID-19 tests to travelers (KUTV)

“Within 15 minutes, I’ll have the results, I’ll be on the plane and I’ll be able to go home without quarantining,” Jokiel said.

His test came back negative and was able to board his flight with no issues.

“[It’s] just quick and easy, right at your gate,” he said.

XpresCheck is now open in Concourse A.

“When hope to help rebuild confidence in the travel industry,” Milford said.

MORE TO EXPLORE

Driver killed, 2 injured in vehicle crash in Park City

Radar



1 hour ago | 6:30 AM MST | GLOBENEWSWIRE

XpresCheck™ COVID-19 Testing Facility Opens at Salt Lake City International Airport Today

Stocks mentioned: XSPA

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SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 20, 2021 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- XpresSpa Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: XSPA) ("XpresSpa" or the "Company"), a health and wellness company, in conjunction with Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC), announces the opening of an XpresCheck™ COVID-19 testing facility at Salt Lake City International Airport today.

XpresCheck is a pop-up facility within the existing XpresSpa at Concourse A, post-security. The facility has four separate testing rooms with an anticipated capacity to administer over 300 tests per day.

COVID-19 testing options include the Rapid Molecular COVID-19 Test and the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Test. These services are available to all airline passengers as well as all airport employees, including airline employees, contractors and workers, concessionaires and their employees, TSA officers, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CPB) agents. All insurance plans are accepted outside of network and all information will remain private and HIPAA-compliant.

Doug Satzman, XpresSpa CEO, stated, "We are thrilled to be opening XpresCheck today at Salt Lake City International Airport. Given the rising number of COVID-19 cases around the country, we believe providing this added layer of safety and comfort will be beneficial to passengers and airline employees alike as demand for travel continues to increase."

About XpresSpa Group, Inc.

XpresSpa Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: XSPA) is a leading global health and wellness holding company. XpresSpa Group's core asset, XpresSpa, is a leading airport retailer of spa services and related health and wellness products, with 45 locations in 23 airports globally. Through its XpresTest, Inc.



Logan International Airport (2), Newark Liberty International Airport, Salt Lake City International Airport, and Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. To learn more about XpresSpa Group, visit: www.XpresSpaGroup.com. To learn more about XpresSpa, visit www.XpresSpa.com. To learn more about XpresCheck, visit www.XpresCheck.com.

Twitter: [@xprescheck](https://twitter.com/xprescheck) and Instagram: [@realxprescheck](https://www.instagram.com/realxprescheck)

About Salt Lake City International Airport

The Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC) is operated and managed by the Salt Lake City Department of Airports, a department of Salt Lake City Corporation. Prior to the pandemic, SLC was the 23rd busiest airport in North America and the 85th busiest in the world. More than 370 flights departed daily to 99 nonstop destinations. SLC is undergoing a \$4.1 billion redevelopment program, the first phase of which opened in fall of 2020.

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[Link to original article](#)

Latest News

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AGS Airports to develop UK's first medical
delivery drone network

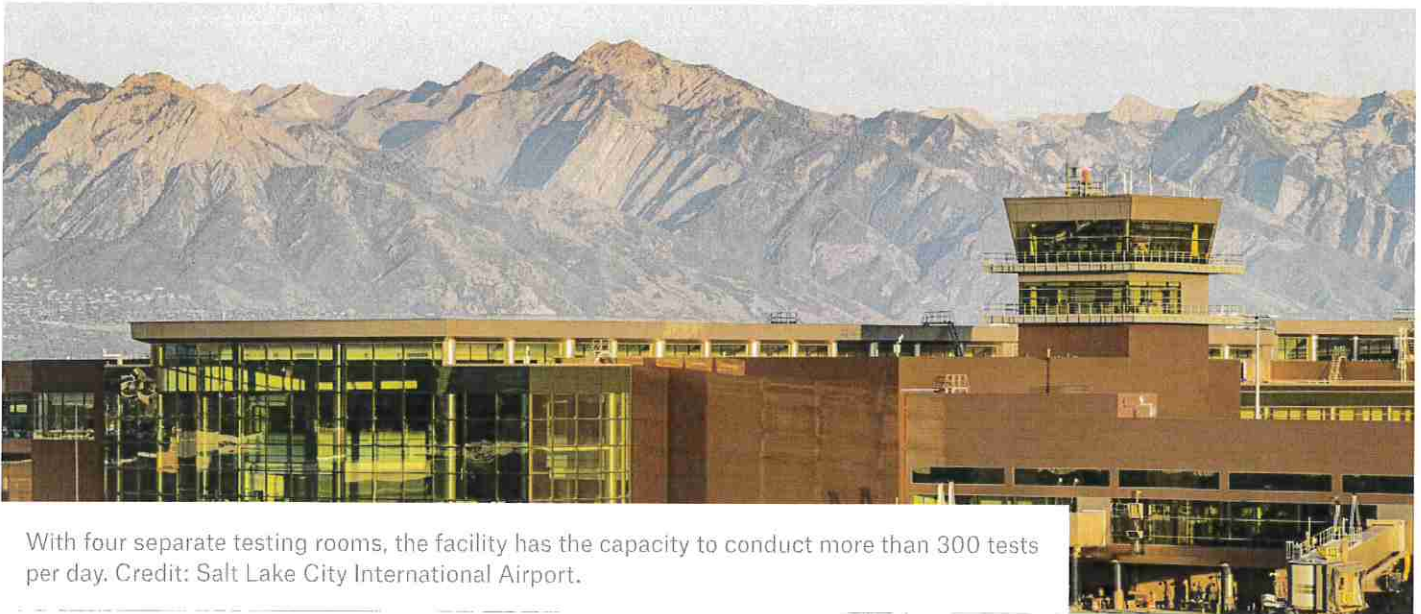
6 hours

Airport Technology
News

XpresSpa opens Covid-19 testing facility at Salt Lake City Airport

21 January 2021 (Last Updated January 21st, 2021 11:59)

Health and wellness company XpresSpa Group has opened XpresCheck, a Covid-19 testing centre at Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC) in the US.



With four separate testing rooms, the facility has the capacity to conduct more than 300 tests per day. Credit: Salt Lake City International Airport.

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Health and wellness company XpresSpa Group has opened XpresCheck, a Covid-19 testing centre at Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC) in the US.

The new pop-up facility is located within the existing XpresSpa at Concourse A, accessible only after security clearance.

With four separate testing rooms, the facility has the capacity to conduct more than 300 tests per day.

The centre will provide both rapid molecular Covid-19 tests, as well as polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests.

These services can be accessed not only by all airline passengers but also airport employees, including airline employees, concessionaires and their employees, contractors and workers.

TSA officers and US Customs and Border Protection (CPB) agents can also get tested at the XpresCheck Covid-19 testing centre.

The company stated that all insurance plans will be acknowledged outside of the network. It also assured that all information will remain private and comply with HIPAA.

XpresSpa CEO Doug Satzman said: "We are thrilled to be opening XpresCheck today at Salt Lake City International Airport. Given the rising number of Covid-19 cases around the country, we believe providing this added layer of safety and comfort will be beneficial to passengers and airline employees alike as demand for travel continues to increase."

COVID-19 testing site opens in Salt Lake City Int'l Airport



COVID-19 testing at the Salt Lake City airport



By: Erin Cox

Posted at 6:00 PM, Jan 20, 2021 and last updated 6:01 PM, Jan 20, 2021

SALT LAKE CITY — The Salt Lake City International Airport opened a new COVID-19 testing site on Wednesday.

A shop near airline gates that used to be a massage and spa place, is now a coronavirus test shop.

LIST: Utah counties offering free rapid COVID-19 tests this week

XpresSpa turned 7 of their 23 airport shops into XpressCheck for those needing a test for travel.

Scott Milford, the XpresSpa Group Chief Operating Officer, said all of their shops were deemed "non-essential" at the beginning of the pandemic.

"We thought how can we continue to serve the travel industry?" said Milford.

That's when the idea of a COVID-19 testing service shop was put on the table.

Milford said their goal remains the same as before -- providing services and increasing consumer confidence while traveling.

"We're helping folks one way or another and hopefully that keeps people traveling," said Milford.

WATCH: Vaccines for Utah residents not meeting demand

Kevala Jokiel, was one of the first few tested at the SLC shop.

Jokiel was visiting Utah from Hawaii to experience snowboarding for the first time.

Jokiel did not want to end his trip on a down note or return to Hawaii for a 10-day quarantine.

"I kept myself safe and didn't want to bring COVID-19 back to anyone, so I got tested," said Jokiel.

Fox 13 was asked to not take video of Jokiel receiving his test but watched as he received his results.

"It says it's negative," said Jokiel. "Great, I can go home!"

The results took some time to process due to a power outage at the airport, but Milford said customers should receive their rapid test results within 15 minutes.

The plan is to administer more than 300 tests per day.

Customers can receive the PCR testing, which takes a few days to process results, or the nasal rapid test.

The tests are available to both airline employees and passengers.

Depending on one's insurance policy, the tests can cost anywhere from 70 to 200 dollars.

Transcript

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KUTV-SLC (CBS) - Salt Lake City, UT
2 News at 4:30am

+ Local Market Viewership: 12,250
 Local Publicity Value: \$478.46 per 30s

KUTV 1/20/2021 4:47:03 AM: ...250 to 400 personnel... to help speed up the process. the state is also offering health care providers new grants to allow them to more quickly administer the covid-19 vaccine. today... a new covid testing site will be opening at the salt lake international airport.... the testing site will offer both rapid and pcr covid-19 tests... it will be open thursday through monday from nine a-m to five p-m... in concourse a.. post security... and will serve ticketed passengers and airport employees. utah businesses are reacting to president elect joe biden's coronavirus relief proposal that includes raising the federal minimum wage to 15 dollars an hour. utah's current minimum wage is the same as the federal minimum wage \$7-25 an hour. some utah business owners say with costs up and business down due to the pandemic.... a wage increase could be crushing. changes could mean cutting back on staff or passing the cost on to the customers. however utahns making minimum wage say the increase could be life changing. the price of living keeps going up, and minimum wage stays where it's at". "i mean, before i opened up my own business, i was definitely an advocate for wanting a higher minimum wage. now all of a sudden, it's not as easy as one may think". at the state level 2 news has learned at least one democratic lawmaker is considering bringing forward a bill to raise the minimum wage in utah. for the first time in nearly a year... jury trials in utah will resume next week but it will be a very limited number. attorneys on all sides are raising concerns about victims and defendants left in limbo because of coronavirus shutdowns. david leavitt / utah county attorney ;35in utah county, we're going to have one jury trial per week in one court ;41 in a county of 750,000 people and 10 judges, that's just not enough ;47 some victims have been in disbelief at the prospect of having no court date. some defendants have been waiting more than a year for a jury trial and many can't get jobs while the cases are pending. this morning.. an immigrant mother who's been living in a local church sanctuary for three years... is filing a lawsuit against immigration and customs enforcement. vicky chavez is one of four women who filed the lawsuit, saying when they spoke out to fight deportation, ice tried to silence them. she and the three other immigrant women who filed the lawsuit, say ice imposed big fines...up to half a million dollars for each of them, in order to silence them. the women are hopeful a new president can drop the fines and the deportation orders. vicky chavez/ ...



01/20/2021 04:46:58 AM

[Clip Editor](#)

Transcript

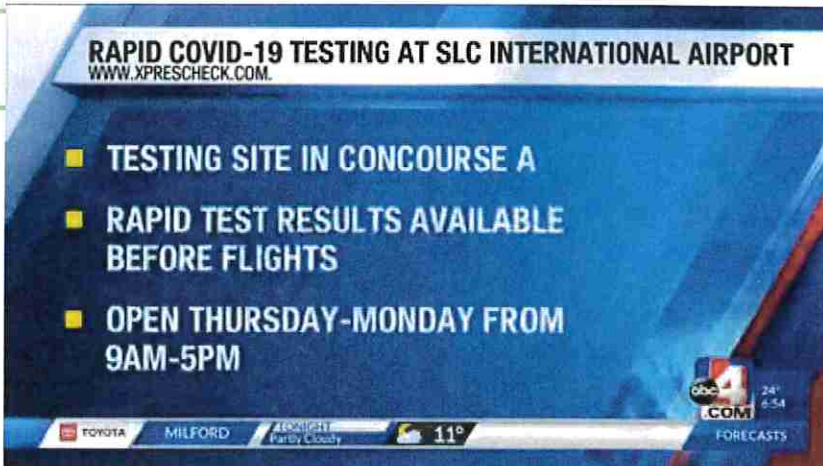
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KTVX-SLC (ABC) - Salt Lake City, UT
Good Morning America

+ Local Market Viewership: 3,701
Local Publicity Value: \$214.79 per
30s

KTVX 1/20/2021 6:54:20 AM: ...covid-19 vaccines last week making the switch in person learning safer. middle high school students are expected to turn to class february 8th. >> and beginning today get a rapid covid-19 test at the salt lake international airport we're waiting for your flight express check is opening a covid-19 testing site in concourse a right after the security checkpoint, passengers can get rapid molecular tests and the standard nasal swabs this rapid test results will come through while you're waiting for your flight they do cost about 200 bucks though tests are available thursdays through mondays from 9 to 5 unions if you're headed to the if you head to the airport was weather look like no, no problems at work today as as wealthy international airport, a gorgeous day on tap will take a look at what we have going on for extended forecast, saint george or clouds are clearing up. i'm still gonna leave you with a



01/20/2021 06:54:15 AM

[Clip Editor](#)

mix of sun and clouds showers also clearing increasing cloud coverage by friday saturday tracking a system that looks like it's going bring us some precept we can all use it so i think we're ok today is a what we call red letter day absolutely gorgeous out there, lots of sunshine enjoy 40's. it is your high upper 40's by tomorrow and well i 80 westbound park city this is a there you go 32 minutes like that kind of like the which you'll just be right there right on time i 15 southbound cedar city to saint george 45 degrees and northbound saint george's cedar city. >> 15 minutes so right now drive time to looking a little bt slower. i 15 northbound from santa cedar city apart from that it looks pretty good out there back to you sir. nice thanks erica don't forget. we would love to see your baby photos we love celebrating with your family. >> to celebrate just email us news at nbc 4 dot com a photo of your little one a fun fact about them. >> we love kids, we also love you know and they're seeing people that are that are your age 2 so whoever we the human element. we just like that. >> and many like this like check out what pills raise now got they've got a new funfetti line it's vanilla cake mix combined with oreo is you do a lot of different things with it so listen you think, yeah, he mixes one they've got a pancake waffle mix that's another one. you've also got chocolate cake mixes as well all infused with oreos for chips and fruit and my pancakes why have i never thought to put an expand your eye this not wait we don't let get like a shake somewhere you get the oreo shake or there's they're always the best i'm really boring. i do even you that all right so you know, i've got some room to grow right, yeah, i'm going to ...

Transcript

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KTVX-SLC (ABC) - Salt Lake City, UT
ABC 4 Utah News at 4:30pm

+ Local Market Viewership: 7,953
Local Publicity Value: \$564.48 per
30s

KTVX 1/20/2021 4:37:45 PM: ...through 12 school district that started the initial school year entirely online reporting live in downtown Salt Lake City, i'm jordan burroughs, abc, 4 news. >> thank you jordan rapid covid-19 testing site rolling out at Salt Lake city international airport today the location is offering rapid molecular covid test and polyamorous chain reaction also known as pcr tests location will be open thursday through monday from 09:00am to 05:00pm this will be in concourse a for post security ticketed passengers and employees for more information head over to our website, abc 4 dot com. all we made it to wednesday this hump and it was a beautiful day out yes, it was a look at that and beyond here's chief meteorologist a lot of rookie still gorgeous statewide as we look at that camera down there in blanding 4 corners area had snow on the grass yesterday at the utah state university campus. it's gone today with the warmth. >> making return above average temperatures want to hold on for thursday, the reason they won't stick around as we near the weekend coming up in utah's most accurate forecast. >> also coming up 400 lights for the more than 400,000 americans dead president joe biden addressing a grieving nation. how he plans to tackle the coronavirus crisis. >> and we do want to remind you can watch abc 4 news live an ...



01/20/2021 04:37:38 PM

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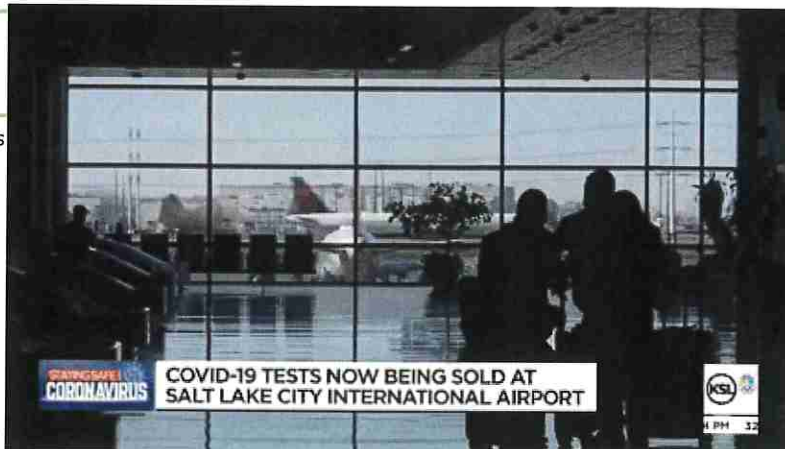
[Zoom](#)

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KSL-SLC (NBC) - Salt Lake City, UT
KSL 5 News at 6

+ Local Market Viewership: 50,350
Local Publicity Value:
\$3,571.79 per 30s

KSL 1/20/2021 6:03:54 PM: ...but there is hope. case counts continue to drop.. health officials reporting 21-hundred new cases today. with the percent of positive tests.. inching down slightly again today.. now at 19 percent. a new store opened.. inside salt lake international airport this morning. instead of travel pillows and snacks... this new shop is offering covid-19 tests. news specialist alex cabrero was there.. as passengers started lining up. ááairport announcement natsáá you ever look at an airport departure board... and pick a place you'd like to visit?michaela thomas / new york resident "yeah, ha!" hawaii is a top pick... ...which is why, even with her mask, you could tell michaela thomas was smiling.michaela thomas / new york resident "for two weeks. visiting my sister there." ...but before visiting paradise... "okay" ...she had to sit in a chair.. and visit any place... that took her mind off of what was happening. michaela thomas / new york resident "they go pretty deep into your nose and swirl it around for ten seconds so it's a little painful." ..but to her.. getting this covid test... meant no quarantine when she gets to hawaii. michaela thomas / new york resident "if you don't receive a negative test before you leave, you have to quarantine for ten days." she's lucky. xprescheck... had its first day at salt lake city international airport wednesday morning. rapid tests only take about 15 minutes. michaela thomas / new york resident "i got one back home but the results didn't come in on time." xprescheck... is from the same company that did xpresspa massages in airports. coronavirus forced them to close.scott milford / coo, xpresspa group "we were deemed non-essential during the lockdown." so, the company changed to covid testing... since many places require a negative test. right now, only hawaii accepts the company's tests... though more states and countries could in the future. scott milford / coo, xpresspa group "we started this with the intention of trying to bring confidence back to the traveling public." alex cabrero / ksl 5 news "now there is a cost if you want to get a covid test here. it's not free like if you go to the hospital. if you take the longer test, it's 75-dollars and they will work with you to submit it to your insurance company. but if you take the rapid test, it's 200 dollars and you will have to submit it to your insurance company yourself which they may or may not cover."kalie lewis / texas resident "it depends on how bad you want this vacation. we live in a new time now, so you have to put that in your budget to know you're going to have to pay a little extra to go anywhere." for some, though, the price is worth it. kalie lewis / texas resident "now i can go have fun and be able to walk up to the airport and just have my test readily available rather than just saying, hey, i'll quarantine for ten days and then missing out on an entire vacation." ...especially... when it's hawaii. at salt lake international, alex cabrero, ksl 5 news. ...



01/20/2021 06:04:12 PM

[Clip Editor](#)

Transcript

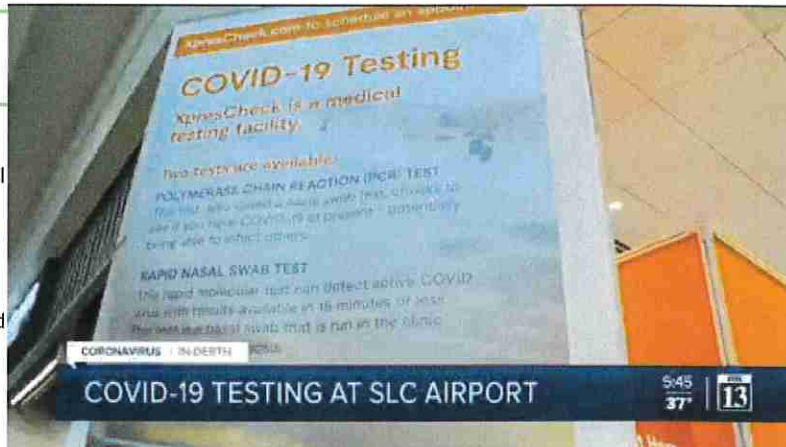
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KSTU-SLC (FOX) - Salt Lake City, UT
FOX 13 News at 5:30

+ Local Market Viewership: 10,809
Local Publicity Value: \$518.56 per
30s

KSTU 1/20/2021 5:45:41 PM: ... if you need a covid-19 test before you travel, you can now get one at the salt lake international airport, a new testing site opened there today and this is something different fox teams aaron cox spoke with one of the very first people to get the test at the airport >> . there's a little shop here in the salt lake city international airport where you used to be able to get a massage. well, now you can get a covid-19 test deliver beyond the security line near the airport gates sits a shop well once was filled with spa and massage services draped in curtains and for filled with swabs and gloves. sit down, answer a couple of questions about your exposure. people are jokily was here from hawaii to see the snow. i know you guys are trying to escape but as hawaiians we like the snow. >> jakiel didn't want to end his first snowboarding trip on a down note or a ten day quarantine once returning just kept myself safe and i want to bring it back to anyone. so i got tested. we weren't >> allowed to watch jakiel. it tested >> another tissue. please. but we watched >> as yorkhill learned his results such right the result is processed right on site and we can usually get you the results in fifteen minutes. scott >> millford with express boss says they offer both the rapid test and the pcr test and can administer more than 00 tests per day. so we're helping folks one way or another and hopefully that keeps people traveling >> and no millford doesn't know when their company will go back to being a massage and spa service . he sees future opportunities helping out with testing >>. we can use these opportunities to even expand our testing capabilities beyond just the testing, flu testing, flu vaccine and play trip painless . you might tear up a little bit ,might sneeze but it was all worth it. definitely certain states and countries have specific requirements about the location you receive your covid test just something to be aware of while you're traveling express says they have stations in six other airports salt lake city international airport aaron cox fox heartiness, utah >> starting next week the provo school district will begin >> its plan to provide more face to face instruction time for ...



01/20/2021 05:45:37 PM

[Clip Editor](#)

National mask mandate not prompting major changes at airport



by: [Jerad Giottonini](#)

Posted: Feb 1, 2021 / 12:22 PM MST / Updated: Feb 1, 2021 / 12:22 PM MST

SALT LAKE CITY (ABC 4) – The national mask mandate goes into effect at midnight. It was [signed by the president](#) last week and requires passengers to wear a mask in airports and on planes, trains, ships, and intercity buses.

The Salt Lake Airport and various airlines have been requiring masks since the start of the pandemic but now passengers who fail to comply- could be faced with repercussions from the federal government.

“It’s no problem off my back, putting a mask on,” passenger Hank Olson said.

Since the start of the pandemic, airport officials say masks have been required in the airport and by most airlines. This mandate gives federal agencies like TSA the ability to enforce the mandate.

“I think having this federal guideline just helps reinforce the importance of wearing a mask and gives us the ability to enforce it,” Nancy Volmer with the Salt Lake Airport said.

Just last week, a group of passengers departing from Salt Lake en route to Dallas were [kicked off an American Airlines flight](#) due to not properly wearing a mask.

The Association of Flight Attendants released a statement reading in part: “Executive action on a mask mandate for interstate travel, including airports and planes, will provide much needed back up for Flight Attendants and aviation workers on the frontlines.”

The Utah Transit Authority says [masks have been well received](#) by passengers.

“In many cases, we are asking people to board a bus through the rear door instead of the front door and we have been doing a lot of enhanced cleaning,” Carl Arky says.

Masks will also be required in all taxis and ride sharing vehicles.

Failure to comply could be a federal crime but the CDC says a civil penalty is more likely.

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Executive order requires masks on all methods of public transportation in the United States



Photo by: Photo by: Rick Bowmer / AP

Air travelers line up to go through a security checkpoint at Salt Lake City International Airport



By: Brian Schnee

Posted at 8:36 PM, Feb 02, 2021 and last updated 9:54 PM, Feb 02, 2021

SALT LAKE CITY — The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued an order requiring the wearing of masks by travelers to prevent the spread of the virus which causes COVID-19.

The order requires passengers on all public conveyances (airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, buses, subways, taxis, ride-shares) traveling *into, within, or out of* the United States, to wear a mask over both the nose and mouth.

[READ: TSA to begin enforcing face covering requirement at airports, transportation hubs starting Tuesday](#)

While the Salt Lake City International Airport already has a mask requirement in place, the Transportation Safety Administration has implemented provisions from President Joe Biden's executive order.

“For TSA’s purposes that means if you come to the airport and there is a face mask requirement at SLC but you come to the security checkpoint and you don’t have your mask on, TSA will deny you entry into the screening checkpoint,” said Lorie Dankers, a TSA spokesperson. “They (travelers) must wear a face mask that fits snugly across their nose and their mouth, they need to make sure it’s not a gaiter or a bandana that in fact it can even be homemade or surgical cloth mask all of those work.”

Per the order, face shields and goggles can be worn as a preventative safety measure, but they must be accompanied by a mask.

“We’re finding the vast majority of travelers are wearing their masks to the security checkpoint,” Dankers said. “If for a chance somebody had not been wearing a mask or additional screening of some sort, our officers would actually offer that traveler a mask for the very purpose of protecting our employee.”

[Here's a link to a document with all of the details on the new Executive Order.](#)

The order went into effect February 1, 2021 at 11:59 EST and is expected to last until May 11, 2021.

The CDC put out a list of requirements and exceptions outlined by the CDC:

People are not required to wear a mask under the following circumstances:

- While eating, drinking, or taking medication for brief periods of time
- While communicating, for brief periods of time, with a person who is hearing impaired when the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication
- If, on an aircraft, wearing of oxygen masks is needed because of loss of cabin pressure or other event affecting aircraft ventilation
- If unconscious (for reasons other than sleeping), incapacitated, unable to be awakened, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance
- When necessary to temporarily remove the mask to verify one's identity such as during Transportation Security Administration (TSA) screening or when asked to do so by the ticket or gate agent or any law enforcement official

The following categories of people are exempt from the requirement to wear a mask:

- A child under the age of 2 years
- A person with a disability who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, for reasons related to the disability
- A person for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by the relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations

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CURATION BY

Two arrested after series of drive-by shootings in SLC

Transcript

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KUTV-SLC (CBS) - Salt Lake City, UT
2 News at 6:00pm

+ Local Market Viewership: 61,914
Local Publicity Value:
\$4,095.05 per 30s

KUTV 2/1/2021 6:10:39 PM: ...they are proposing a smaller one targeted at \$168 billion. she says she is hopeful congress can pass a bipartisan bill. >>> if you are heading to the salt lake international airport, it is important to know the tsa is going to start enforcing the mask requirement effective tomorrow. masks are required in airports and throughout your flight. that includes when you board and leave a plane. the tsa say masks are defined as a material covering the nose and mouth of the wearer. >>> we continue to monitor the latest developments as they happen during the pandemic. we'll have more right here on channel 2 and always at kutv.com. >>> calls tonight for a school board member to step down. the controversial post that triggered it all and what the school board says comes next. >>> the start of february kicks off the clean air challenge here in utah. how the pandemic helped cut our pollution in 2020 and how you can help utah continue ...



02/01/2021 06:10:35 PM

[Clip Editor](#)

Transcript

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Zoom Include In Report

KTVX-SLC (ABC) - Salt Lake City, UT
ABC 4 Utah News Mid-day

+ Local Market Viewership: 9,410
Local Publicity Value: \$631.35 per 30s

KTVX 2/1/2021 12:01:03 PM: ...>> thanks for joining us for midday, i'm brian carlson, less than 12 hours, the u.s. begins a nationwide mask order for public transportation. it was signed by the president and affects the next time you ride or fly or go on a bus. abc for his chair, just any has more from the Salt Lake airport already doing similar safety measures. the Salt Lake airport and various airlines have been requiring face masks since the start of the pandemic. >> but now passengers who fail to comply could be faced with the repercussions from the federal government. >> file me no prom off my back from the mask on the president's national mask mandate goes into effect end of day requiring passengers like ankles and to wear a mask inside an Airport on planes trains ships, and intercity buses. selig Airport says it and airlines have already been enforcing masks. but according to tsa



02/01/2021 12:01:06 PM

[Clip Editor](#)

now agents have some authority i think having this federal guidelines just helps to reinforce the importance of wearing a mask. >> and does give us the ability force it just last week a group of passengers departing salt lake headed to dallas were kicked off an american airlines flight for failing to properly wear their face masks. >> the association of flight attendants released a statement reading in part executive action on a mask mandate for interstate travel, including airports and planes will provide much needed back up for a flight attendant and aviation workers on the front lines. and utah transit authority says despite a declining ridership. acquiring a mask on trains and buses have been well received by passengers in many cases we're asking people to board a bus through the rear door instead of the front door. >> and of course we've been pdoing a lot of the enhanced cleaning state health officials say stricter mask guidelines through april could help save upwards a 50,000 lives would be great. >> hopefully we can do and hopefully you can get it behind us in the rearview mirror now masks are required inside all taxis and ride sharing vehicles failure to comply could be a federal crime but according to the cdc, civil penalty is more likely. jerry giant eni abc 4 news all right. thank you jen. >> a group of senate republicans including utah senator mitt romney are pitching a counter proposal to president biden's one 0.9 trillion dollar covid relief package. today they sat down with the president republicans are presenting a 600 billion covid-19 bill less than a 3rd of what the president is asking for. it includes a 160 billion ...

Air carrier JSX begins seasonal flights in SL C

By LEE DAVIDSON

January 15, 2021
The Salt Lake Tribune

JSX — an air carrier that flies 30-seat jets between private terminals — is beginning seasonal flights between Salt Lake City International Airport and Las Vegas and Burbank, Calif.

The company announced that service on weekends during ski season begins on Jan. 28, with one-way flights starting at \$198 to Burbank and \$179 to Las Vegas.

Booking online is available at jsx.com.

Flights in Salt Lake City leave and arrive at Atlantic Aviation, 369 N. 2370 West.

In Burbank, flights use the JSX Hangar at 4562 Empire Ave. In Las Vegas, they use the JSX Hangar at 5616-A Haven Street.

JSX says it offers a crowd-free alternative to public air travel that avoids crowded terminals and packed planes.

“Now, more than ever, people are seeking safe and efficient point-to-point travel options for both business and leisure. Our distinctive form of flying allows us to quickly pivot to serve destinations people want to fly to while eliminating the hassles and headaches associated with commercial air travel,” said JSX CEO Alex Wilcox.

“Outdoor leisure destinations top the list of desired getaways and JSX is excited to offer weekly round trip service to Salt Lake

City so travelers can experience the joy of a simple, safe and socially-distanced winter escape,” he said.



The air carrier JSX is beginning seasonal service at Salt Lake City International Airport. It uses 30-seat jets and private terminals.

Courtesy of JSX

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JSX Adds Salt Lake City, Los Angeles and Cabo to Route Map

As we head into the dead of winter, airlines are doing one of two things: adding flights to warm leisure destinations or flights to winter-sport-orientated destinations. Dallas-based scheduled charter airline JSX has done just this and added flights to both a new winter sport hot spot and a sunny beach destination.

All flights will be operated onboard the carrier's Embraer E135 or E145 aircraft.

Salt Lake City



The Salt Lake City Airport (Photo: AirlineGeeks | Inev Gerardi)

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Flights begin on Jan. 28, 2021 from Las Vegas and on Jan. 31, 2021 from Burbank, Calif, with the carrier operating one round-trip flight a week from each.

Flights to Las Vegas will operate on Thursdays from now until the end of March 2021 where as flights to Burbank, Calif. will operate on Sundays for the same time period.

In Salt Lake City, the carrier will operate out of the Atlantic Aviation building located on the eastern side of the airport grounds. JSK allows snowboard and skis to be checked for free.

Los Angeles and Cabo

On Jan. 26, the United States implemented a mandatory negative Covid-19 test for all passengers arriving into the country from an international destination regardless of if they are an American citizen or not.

Despite the new rule on international arrivals, JSX has announced the intentions to serve Cabo, Mexico from Los Angeles International Airport.

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71 firearms found in carry-on luggage at SLC airport last year

January 27, 2021

SALT LAKE CITY — The Transportation Security Administration announced Tuesday that 71 firearms were found in carry-on luggage at the Salt Lake City International Airport in 2020, and that firearms were found at twice the rate as in 2019.

That matches a trend seen throughout the country, the TSA said in [a news release](#), where screening officers found firearms in 2020 at "the highest rate since the agency's inception."

In 2020, the TSA found 71 guns at SLC and 3,257 in carry-on bags nationwide. In raw numbers, that's down from 85 guns at SLC and 4,432 nationally in 2019; and 73 locally and 4,239 nationally in 2018.

However, air traffic at SLC in 2020 was only about 48% of its total the year before. Travelers flying out of Salt Lake City brought firearms in carry-on luggage at a rate of 16.8 guns per million travelers screened; the year before, it was only eight firearms per million screened.

Nationally, those rates were about 10 guns per million passengers in 2020 and five guns per million in 2019. Air traffic fell by 500 million passengers nationwide in 2020 because of [the coronavirus pandemic](#).

The Salt Lake City International Airport ranked 10th nationally for the number of firearms found in carry-ons in 2020. The Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport topped the list with 220 guns discovered, followed

by Dallas/Fort Worth at 176 and George Bush Intercontinental Airport, in Houston, with 126.

Rounding out the top 10 were Phoenix Sky Harbor (124), Denver (104), Nashville (94), Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood (87), Orlando (79), and Las Vegas McCarran (72).

Grant Goodlett, the TSA's acting federal security director for Utah, said the agency "continues to ask travelers to carefully pack their carry-on bags to ensure that firearms are not brought to the security checkpoint."

"TSA officers continue to be focused during their screening duties to ensure that firearms — and other security threats — do not make it into the cabin of an aircraft," he said in the release.

Travelers found with guns in their carry-on luggage face "potential criminal citations" as well as "civil penalties." "TSA evaluates each firearm incident on a case-by-case basis," the release says, including whether the weapon was loaded and whether there was accessible ammunition.

In 2020, 83% of firearms found were loaded according to a TSA infographic.

Firearms can be transported on commercial flights, but only in checked luggage after being properly declared at the ticket counter during check-in. They must be unloaded and stored in a "locked, hard-sided case."

More specific TSA information about transporting firearms can be found at www.tsa.gov/travel/transporting-firearms-and-ammunition.

×

Fewer passengers, but nearly same amount of guns seized at Salt Lake City Int'l Airport in 2019



Photo by: Rick Bowmer / AP

Air travelers line up to go through a security checkpoint at Salt Lake City International Airport

By: Sarah Dewberry

Posted at 5:25 PM, Jan 26, 2021 and last updated 10:26 PM, Jan 26, 2021

SALT LAKE CITY — Despite the decrease in air travel due to the coronavirus pandemic, Transportation Security Administration officers at the Salt Lake City International Airport confiscated nearly the same amount of guns from passengers in 2020 as in 2019.

READ: Bill allowing Utah gun owners to carry concealed weapons without permit passes through House

According to a [press release](#), TSA confiscated 71 guns at the airport, a decrease in 14 firearms from the year before when travel was nearly double without the pandemic.

The **Salt Lake Tribune** reports passengers flying out of Salt Lake City "brought firearms in their carry-on luggage at a rate of 16.8 guns per million travelers screened in 2020, compared to 8 per million in 2019."

That rate is 68% higher than the national rate.

Salt Lake City International Airport recorded the tenth-most amount of guns seized among U.S. airports.

About five guns per million passengers were found across the country in 2019, TSA said.

WATCH: Concealed carry weapon permit classes on the rise in Utah

In 2019, TSA agents found 4,432 firearms at all U.S. airport checkpoints, of which 87% were loaded.

"I commend our officers for their commitment to TSA's security mission by identifying and stopping these weapons at the TSA checkpoints. Firearms are strictly prohibited on board planes in the passenger cabin," said Senior Official Performing the Duties of TSA Administrator Darby LaJoye in the news release. "Bringing a firearm to a TSA security checkpoint poses a serious risk to TSA officer and passenger safety, and doing so may result in significant fines or arrest."

Most guns were discovered at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport with 220. Dallas/Ft. Worth International came in second with 176 guns confiscated.

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Heart of Utah

Coronavirus Tracker

Utah ranks 10th in the nation for most firearms found in carry-on luggage

BY SAIGE MILLER *KSL Radio*
JANUARY 27, 2021 AT 4:02 PM



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SALT LAKE CITY — In a new report by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Utah ranks tenth in the nation for the most firearms discovered in traveler carry-on luggage. In 2020, the TSA says they found a total of 71 firearms in carry-on luggage at Salt Lake City International Airport while conducting routine security checks.

are not brought to the security checkpoint,” said TSA Acting Federal Security Director for Utah Grant Goodlett. “TSA officers continue to be focused during their screening duties to ensure that firearms – and other security threats – do not make it into the cabin of an aircraft.”

2021 let's make it

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SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84143

Locally, the TSA screened approximately 4.2 million departing travelers at the SLC airport in 2020. Of those screenings, statistics show people traveling out of SLC brought firearms in carry-on luggage at a rate of 16.8 firearms per million travelers screened, which is above the 2020 national average. The national average is about 10 firearms per million passengers screened, according to the TSA.

Compared to previous years, the total number of firearms found at security checkpoints didn't vary much. In fact, in the year 2020 the TSA reported the least amount of firearms spotted in carry-on luggage. In 2018, the TSA reported 73 firearms at security checkpoints, and 81 firearms in 2019.

National firearm statistics from TSA

It was a record-breaking year for TSA agents. Nationally, the discovery rate of firearms in carry-on luggage doubled in 2020. That year was the highest in the agency's history. In total, the TSA found 3,257 firearms in carry-on luggage in 2020.

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In 2020, TSA screened approximately 324 million travelers at airports nationwide — only 39% of approximately 824 million screened in 2019. Despite a significant drop in screenings because of the pandemic, the TSA said it detected roughly 10 firearms per million passengers screened as compared to 5 firearms per million passengers screened in 2019.

- Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (220 firearm finds)
- Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (176 firearm finds)
- Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport (126 firearm finds)

TSA protocol for traveling with firearms

People are allowed to travel with firearms, but there's a handful of rules that must be followed in order to do so. Even if someone has a concealed carry permit, they are prohibited from bringing a firearm onto a plane.

“Firearms can be transported on a commercial aircraft only if they are unloaded, packed in a locked, hard-sided case, and placed in checked baggage,” said the TSA. “Any type of replica firearm is prohibited in carry-on baggage and must be transported in checked luggage.”

The TSA advises everyone traveling with a firearm to check with the airline they're flying with for specific instructions.

If a traveler disobeys these regulations, they could be subjected to civil or criminal penalties. The TSA said they evaluate each firearm situation differently. For example, when determining a civil penalty, the agency considers “whether the firearm was loaded and whether there was accessible ammunition.”

The best piece of advice from the TSA: don't bring your gun through security.

For more information about traveling with a firearm, [visit here](#). For a full list of civil penalties and prohibited items on planes, [visit here](#).



TSA firearm statistics (TSA)

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KUTV-SLC (CBS) - Salt Lake City, UT
2 News at 10:00pm

+ Local Market Viewership: 58,359
Local Publicity Value:
\$8,595.36 per 30s

KUTV 1/26/2021 10:11:21 PM: ...of them, loaded. hartsfield jackson international had the most firearms discovered of any airport. 220 of the dallas-fort worth, they are in second with 176, 71 guns were found at salt lake international. the agency found about 10 firearms per 1 billion passengers. >>> the u.s. keeping its title of shark attack capitol of the world. the nation reported 33 unprovoked shark attacks, that is 50% of the world's total, almost half of those happen in florida. the international tracking group says three people in the u.s. died last year, after being attacked by sharks. and that most of the attacks are related to surfing or other board sports on the watcher. >>> driving up utah's canyons can be a nightmare during ski season. a serious weekend crash, bringing new changes to how law enforcement response to those canyon ...



01/26/2021 10:11:09 PM

[Clip Editor](#)

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KTVX-SLC (ABC) - Salt Lake City, UT
Good Morning Utah

+ Local Market Viewership: 3,040
Local Publicity Value: \$116.09 per
30s

KTVX 1/27/2021 5:39:04 AM:
...insurrection that occurred to what degree and so forth is something we're going to evaluate in the trial. >> back home in utah, a guns seized at the salt lake city airport doubled in 2020 tsa report. like ranked number 10 in the country last year for the number of guns passengers tried to take on board in their carry-ons well, the actual number of passengers was cut in half because of the pandemic the number of guns per million people doubled from 8 guns per million to nearly 17 guns per million. >> and also this morning byu is keeping its police department according to the salt lake tribune. yesterday state leaders said they will back down on their push to decertify the byu police department the stated claim that byu did do a proper internal investigation into lieutenant who inappropriately accessed police reports to help us honor code office. a judge ruled the law surrounding the situation was unclear. the state now says they'll no longer peel that judge's decision to dismiss the case that now is 5.39 still ahead on gm you how much does your mask protect you from covid-19. why some health experts say in certain cases to masks are better than one. >> as we head to the break you to be the live look just outside our abc for studios. that's our colonial flag and you see the weather ball on top of that pole. one key white, mean snow is in sight. we're back with your weather on the ...



01/27/2021 05:38:59 AM

[Clip Editor](#)

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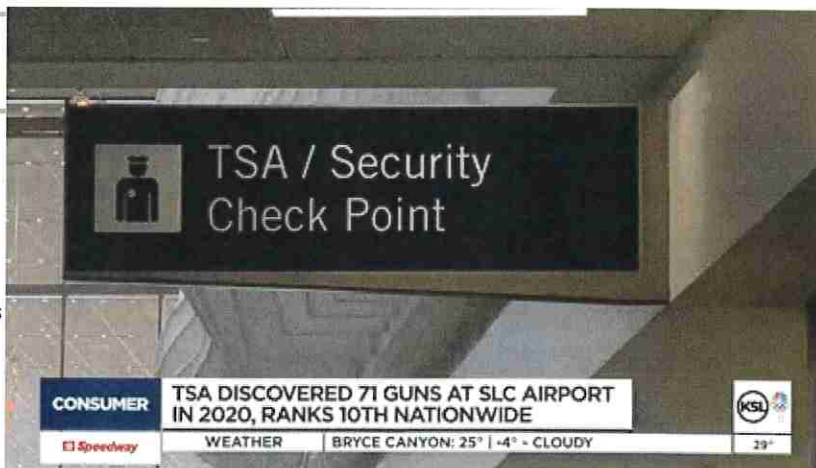
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KSL-SLC (NBC) - Salt Lake City, UT
KSL 5 News at 4:30AM

+ Local Market Viewership: 1,063
Local Publicity Value: \$64.86 per
30s

KSL 1/27/2021 4:44:11 AM: ...plan is "well-ahead" of what delta initially expected. delta has declined to comment about future flight capacity or scheduling. according to new numbers from the tsa, the Salt lake airport is ranked tenth in the nation for the number of guns discovered at security last year..71 guns were found by tsa agents at salt lake international during routine screenings. hartsfield-jackson atlanta international Airport had the most guns found...with 220. nationwide...t-s-a agents discovered more than 32-hundred firearms in 2020...that is twice as many as 2019. in other consumer news...pepsi is jumping on the plant-based protein train... the company is teaming up with beyond meat...to develop snacks and drinks with proteins made from plants. in the deal, beyond meat will have access to pepsi's distribution and marketing assets, and pepsi will profit off the plant based protein market. news of the announcement made beyond meat stock rise 18 percent. and starting today, kraft is launching a limited-edition mac and cheese for valentine's day. they're calling it "candy kraft mac and cheese". the same cheesy meal we already know...but with one addition... a candy flavor packet to turn it pink and give it a hint of sweet candy flavor. if you want it, you'll have to order it online - kraft says it will arrive by valentine's day. their website should be up an running around 5 this morning. toss to weather ...



01/27/2021 04:44:21 AM

[Clip Editor](#)

Transcript

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KSTU-SLC (FOX) - Salt Lake City, UT
FOX 13 News at Nine

+ Local Market Viewership: 37,177
Local Publicity Value:
\$5,865.60 per 30s

KSTU 1/26/2021 9:28:42 PM:

...information from tsa tonight even though there was a decrease in air travel last year and twenty tsa officers say they confiscated a record number of firearms from passengers Salt Lake city international airport had the tenth highest number of guns seized among the country. the agency says they collected seventy four firearms in twenty twenty fourteen less than they collected in twenty nineteen when travel is nearly double what it's been during a pandemic >>. coming up after the break from moving through the covid-19 pandemic to a brand new department promising to help the community we talk live with salt Lake City mayor aaron mendenhall on the state of the City. we have great numbers for the state and a look at how every county is doing with new covid rates compared with two weeks ago when we post holiday surge >>. i think this is the only way to get a full investigation. a resolution filed in the utah state legislature that seeks to impeach the attorney general. coming highlights from the jazz next game. plus jordan clarkson will tell us how awkward snyder is helping him new year's resolutions come and go. so give your business more than resolutions... give it solutions, from comcast business. work more efficiently with fast internet and advanced wifi. make your business safer with powerful cybersecurity solutions, and stay productive with 24/7 support. make this year's resolution better solutions. bounce forward with comcast business. get started with a powerful internet and voice solution for just \$64.90 a month. plus, for a limited time, ask how to get a \$500 prepaid card when you upgrade. switch today. ...



01/26/2021 09:28:31 PM

[Clip Editor](#)

The New SLC News



Holiday crowding revealed problems at new Salt Lake City International Airport

Tweaks are being considered to help with the longer walk as well as wheelchair service and baggage systems.



(Rick Bowmer | AP file photo) Delta flights are shown at their gates in new terminal at the Salt Lake City International Airport on Sept. 15, 2020.

By Lee Davidson | Jan. 21, 2021, 6:00 a.m. | Updated: 7:17 a.m.

The Christmas and New Year holidays were the first real test of how the first phase of the sparkling new \$4.1 billion Salt Lake City International Airport could handle bigger crowds — because the pandemic had kept them small.

It didn't do well, officials now concede. But they say they are working on fixes.

“There were some kinks, I'll be the first to say,” Bill Wyatt, airport executive director, told the city Airport Advisory Board on Wednesday.



Disabled people had trouble getting wheelchair assistance. The baggage system sometimes didn't work. Airport roads were congested with confused drivers. And more than anything, people complained about how much longer the walk is to the gates.

The walks indeed are longer. Wyatt explained why and discussed some tweaking the airport is considering to help.

“The reality is it’s a big, beautiful airport — emphasis on big and beautiful — and people are going to take some time getting used to this because it’s very different,” he said.

Wyatt noted that the old airport was built generally for smaller aircraft, so gates were spaced more closely, and the airport was compact and small. Now aircraft are bigger and require more room between gates in two concourses that are separated by a 990-foot tunnel (longer than three football fields).

In the old airport, Wyatt said he often could go from the parking lot to a gate in 8 minutes. “That just isn’t the case at a big-boy, world class airport like we have now,” he said. “It functions differently than the old airport in many, many ways.”



(Trent Nelson | Tribune file photo) Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall, airport director Bill Wyatt, and Steve Sisneros of Southwest Airlines bump elbows after cutting a ribbon at gate B17 as the Salt Lake City International Airport celebrated the opening of its new Concourse B, with a Southwest flight to Oakland taking off on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020.



So the airport has been suggesting that people arrive two hours before flights to ensure they can make the longer trips to gates plus parking, ticketing and security.

Wyatt noted that with the longest possible trip, people must get from parking to the terminal, maybe to ticket agents, through security, down the terminal hall, turn into Concourse A, find a tunnel halfway down it, travel through the long tunnel to Concourse B, come out and walk maybe to a distant gate. Some flights temporarily are also using a hard-stand operation, where passengers are taken by shuttle to the tarmac where they walk up steps.

He said moving walkways cover about 70% of that distance, but it still takes time.

Wyatt said the airport is considering offering golf-cart-like shuttles in the current tunnel to help some people, because it figures it has space there that allows it.

An under-construction central tunnel is being built large enough to someday allow a planned train there when a third concourse is built 15-20 years from now — so it may also allow carts until then.

Wyatt said not enough room exists in gate concourses for such shuttles. He added that the airport once offered carts years ago but stopped them because of a high number of lawsuits from people who were hit in crowded halls. Also, he said airlines did not want them in the new airport and did not want to help fund wider concourses needed to allow them.

He said the best option for people unable physically to handle longer walks is a wheelchair. But he said many disabled people had trouble getting a wheelchair during the holidays.

Wyatt said a contractor that offers wheelchair service failed to hire enough people to handle unexpectedly large crowds, when about 22,000 local passengers showed up at the airport on the Sunday after Christmas instead of the 7,000 or 8,000 people who had been arriving during the pandemic.

“The spike in passenger volume was so sharp and so sudden that the company that provides that service for the airlines simply wasn’t staffed up to handle that,” Wyatt said. “That’s a problem that time is going to resolve, because from this point forward, the increase in passenger volume is going to be sufficiently gradual so that they’ll be able to staff accordingly.”

The airport is also looking at changing how passengers request a wheelchair.



Now they must go to a ticket agent who calls for a wheelchair by radio. Wyatt said the airport is looking at creating some podiums in the terminal lobby where people may receive a wheelchair, and then be taken to ticketing and other locations. He says it should be more efficient.

Wyatt said the airport also had some failures with baggage handling with the bigger crowds, but blames that more on people not used to higher volume than on the new machinery itself.

“The machinery has performed very effectively. It’s still many of the service providers, ticket agents and others getting used to how this works,” he said.

Wyatt said the airport is working to resolve problems it finds and is preparing for expected bigger crowds. He said Delta Air Lines — which operates about 70% of the airport’s flights through its hub operation — expects to return to 85% of normal in spring or summer as more people are able to obtain vaccines.

“That’s just going to trigger a lot of leisure travel,” he said.

He expects business travel to remain slow as many businesses have become accustomed to holding online meetings. Also, he expects international travel to be slow to return.



ldavidson@sltrib.com

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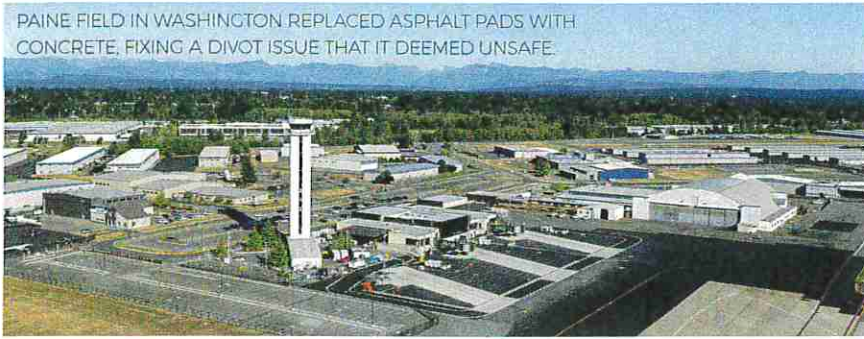
NEWS

Air carrier JSX begins seasonal flights in Salt Lake City, with small jets in private terminal

POLITICS



PAINE FIELD IN WASHINGTON REPLACED ASPHALT PADS WITH CONCRETE, FIXING A DIVOT ISSUE THAT IT DEEMED UNSAFE.



ground loading during busy times and for overnight aircraft parking. After the upgrades, all three pads can accommodate aircraft with higher pavement classification number (PCN) ratings.

"Because of COVID and the drastic drop of air traffic, we felt there was an opportunity to get it all done at once without disrupting passengers or airlines," said Brett Smith, CEO of Propeller Airports. "Completing the project without any traffic on the tarmac helped the reconstruction process run smoothly. Moreover, the new concrete is considered to be a 30-year fix."

Before the pandemic, about 3,000 passengers used the terminal each day,

with United Airlines and Alaska Airlines serving a total of 12 cities. More than a million passengers visited the airport in its first year of commercial service.

Salt Lake City International

The pandemic wasn't enough to dampen the excitement at Salt Lake City International this fall, as the airport opened its brand-new Concourse A-West in September and Concourse B in October. The concourses are part of a total airport rebuild and expansion that includes a new terminal, parking garage and other facilities.

For the old terminals and concourses, the initial plan was to demolish them in

stages and rebuild right on top of them, essentially removing one gate at a time and then replacing it with a new one. The airlines would have all the space they needed during construction of the last two concourses, but the construction process would be complex, costly and lengthy.

With traffic down sharply, Salt Lake City International met with its airlines and determined that they didn't really need to use the old concourses. So, the airport adapted to new realities and demolished the old concourses all at once. Accelerating the project shaved two years off the timeline, and the new concourses are scheduled to open in December 2024.

"It's just a much simpler, cleaner construction process now," said Bill Wyatt, Executive Director of the Salt Lake Department of Airports. "We will have saved as much as \$300 million in the process, so I guess you could characterize that as a silver lining in some respects. It's a pretty dark cloud that doesn't have a silver lining in it somewhere, so you just always have to be looking for that." <

HNTB UNDERSTANDS THE PASSENGER EXPERIENCE

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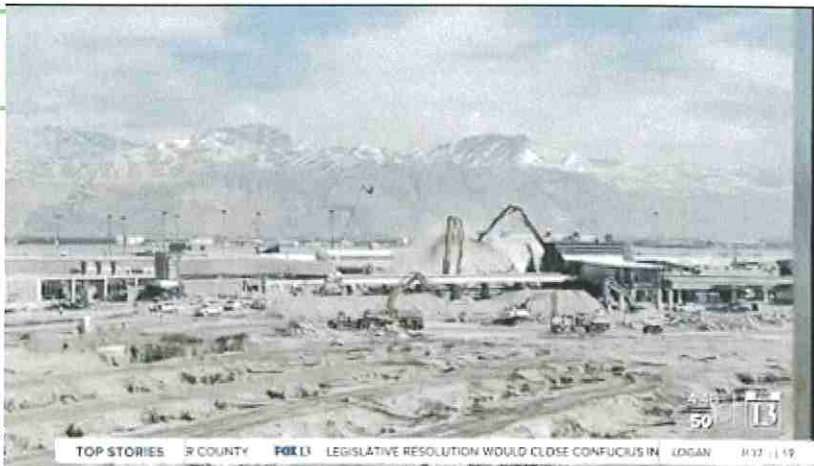
Zoom

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KSTU-SLC (FOX) - Salt Lake City, UT FOX 13's Good Day Utah

+ Local Market Viewership: 4,420
Local Publicity Value: \$219.02 per
30s

KSTU 2/3/2021 4:46:45 AM: ...from several eagle mountain residents who were looking to hire someone to collect unwanted items and dispose of them properly, he now faces misdemeanor charges of illegal dumping and theft by deception. meanwhile, the iconic and original Salt Lake airport tower is no more. take a look at some of this video. so this shows the destruction sent out by the Airport. this demolition is another part in the preparation for building phase two of the new international Airport. that original tower stood watch over Salt Lake city Airport for 60 years downtown Salt lake city could soon be home to another high rise apartment building but the construction could end up costing some people their jobs. a seattle real estate company is planning to redevelop a popular corner at second south and east paperwork filed late last week asked to combine a lot that is home to the popular tabernacle piano bar barbers and other businesses to make way for a massive development. the city's planning office tells fox 13 that building plans have not been submitted for approval but it is possible the site planned for a 30 one storey building complete with current zoning requirements. i like that >> there's small businesses. i like the diversity. i like that it feels local. i think that's really important to me that makes me really upset. thirty one stories i didn't know that >> again. again lanting office tells fox thirteen building plans have not been submitted for approval but it is possible that that thirty one story building will comply with current zoning requirements on this property. employees of the current businesses in the lot say they have to vacate the building by this summer no matter what the call for help first responders never say no monday night firefighters with the weaver fire district in huntsville found themselves in a pretty unique life saving operation fox thirteens john franki shows how the happy ending played out and it's a story you'll only see right here. it's it's uh it's a good call. you know, when you can make a different winter >> in huntsville it's beautiful but cold teens, teens and single digits monday night the crew inside fire station sixty five received knock on their door. the >> guy was he came over as a desperate moment situation >> became dire as the sun set bringing that extreme cold. he knew that the dog would freeze to death overnight and he was beyond the point where he could help anymore. the >> man's dog somehow found ...



02/03/2021 04:46:51 AM

[Clip Editor](#)

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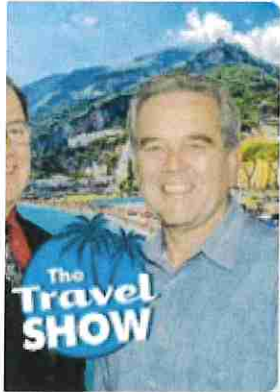
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FOX 13 News Live at Noon

+ Local Market Viewership: 11,606
Local Publicity Value: \$748.08 per
30s

KSTU 1/22/2021 12:29:35 PM: ...looking in the new salt lake City International airport got tested during the holiday travel season. it didn't all go so smoothly. thanks. thirteen has reported on some kinks in the system during that travel time. but now that it's passed we're going in-depth on issues at the airport before we get to the interview, a nod to our content sharing partners at the Salt Lake tribune. this list of some issues including reported troubles, getting wheelchair assistance, problems with the baggage system not working at times difficulty with congested roads and drivers sure where to go and longer locks to the gates now joining us to talk about this, we have a spokesperson for Salt Lake city international airport,

nancy volmer. nancy, always good to talk with you. you know, looking at how a holiday went, would you agree that there are kinks that need to be worked out >>? absolutely. i think that kind of difficult build a new airport until you actually have people

on passengers coming and testing it out. you really don't know how it's going to perform. so we were very lucky in that when we first opened we had lower passenger numbers but we started seeing an increase in passenger over the holidays. it really did test the system and >> when we were going through those >> that list the just disabled access to the roads, those sorts of things, how would you prioritize what were the things that you heard the most >> about? >> we hear a lot about the distance and i don't think a lot of people recognize that this is an entirely new airport . our former facilities were built for ten million passengers and this airport has been built to accommodate thirty four passengers a year and so it's much bigger and it will take longer to navigate and >> you can't you can't make smaller. so so how do you work on that problem? >> well, actually phase two will help with distance so we can build phase two until we demolish the current airport and phase two will include a central tunnel and that will be a shorter point between concourses a and b because right now passengers who are using the airlines concourse b have to go about halfway down concourse a then take a tunnel and get over to concourse b and then they have to go further if they're doing what we calling hard standing with some the regional jets so we ...



01/22/2021 12:30:13 PM

[Clip Editor](#)

Airline News



Exclusive: Utah family kicked off plane over masks

By Ashley Moser, KSL TV | Posted - Jan. 27, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

According to the airline, the family was noncompliant with their face covering policy.

The Wilson family said that was not the case, and there was only one incident while boarding where a mask accidentally fell below a member's nose but was quickly corrected.

"I didn't really see who it was but somebody said, 'Hey, you know, keep your mask up,'" Scott Wilson said. "I dropped everything and moved it up, picked up my stuff and made our way to the back of the plane."

Wilson said when the family finally got to their seats, a gate agent approached them with some bad news from the crew.

"He said, 'Well, they want you to leave the plane,'" Wilson said. "I said, 'What, they want us to get off the plane? Can we talk, can we have a conversation?' Nobody has even really talk to us."

The family said the gate agent left and came back again insisting the captain of the flight crew needed them off.

"He says, 'I'm sorry, it has to be the whole family,'" Wilson said.

All 10 adults and 10 children, ranging in ages from 3-13, left as other passengers on the plane chimed in.

already mad at these guys. They didn't do anything," Wilson said.

“He said, 'Well, they want you to leave the plane.' I said, 'What, they want us to get off the plane? Can we talk, can we have a conversation?' Nobody has even really talk to us.”

—Scott Wilson

KSL spoke to a witness who said he saw the family wearing masks at all times and feels they were unfairly removed. He also shared that with the airline, which interviewed him after the flight.

The family was split up and eventually rebooked on American, United and Delta flights to make it to Hawaii the same day. The family said it was all thanks to the Salt Lake gate agents who were on their side.

"They were livid," Wilson said. "They were mad at this guy and said, 'He is the one with the problem, you guys did nothing wrong. We've never seen anything like this. We've never had a situation like this, and he was totally in the wrong by doing what he did.'"

Here is the airline's full statement to KSL:

"On Sunday, Jan. 24, passengers traveling on American Airlines flight 1214 from Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC) to Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) were reported to be noncompliant with our mandatory face covering policy, which requires face coverings be worn properly over the nose and mouth. Per procedure, the customers involved were asked to exit the aircraft before departure and the flight departed for DFW shortly after.

"American, like other U.S. airlines, began requiring customers to wear a face covering while on board aircraft beginning May 11. We have since strengthened our policy to require



Passengers booted from flight leaving SLC over mask issues



By: Jeff Tavss

Posted at 5:27 PM, Jan 27, 2021 and last updated 5:27 PM, Jan 27, 2021

SALT LAKE CITY — A group of passengers leaving Salt Lake City were escorted off an American Airlines flight recently because they did not wear their face masks properly.

The passengers on Flight 1214 were scheduled to fly from Salt Lake City International Airport to Dallas on Sunday, but were asked to exit the aircraft before departure.

READ: Fewer passengers, but nearly same amount of guns seized at Salt Lake City Int'l Airport in 2019

An American Airlines spokesperson says the passengers were non-compliant with the company's mandatory face covering policy, "which requires face coverings be worn properly over the nose and mouth."

"American, like other U.S. airlines, began requiring customers to wear a face covering while on board aircraft beginning May 11. We have since strengthened our policy to require face coverings be worn at airports and on board, and announced in June that we may deny future travel for customers who refuse to wear a face covering for the duration of this requirement." the spokesperson told FOX 13.

Group kicked-off Salt Lake City flight for not wearing face masks properly



by: [Emma Johnson](#)

Posted: Jan 27, 2021 / 02:03 PM MST / Updated: Jan 27, 2021 / 02:03 PM MST

Utah (ABC4) — A group traveling from [Salt Lake City](#) to Dallas were kicked off their flight for not properly wearing their face masks.

According to a spokesperson with American Airlines, on Sunday, January 24, passengers traveling on American Airlines flight 1214 from Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC) to Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) were reported to be non-compliant with the airline's mandatory face-covering policy.

The policy requires [face coverings to be worn properly](#) over the nose and mouth at all times, the spokesperson shares with ABC4.

“Per procedure, the customers involved were asked to exit the aircraft before departure and the flight departed for DFW shortly after,” the spokesperson adds.

The airline says according to internal reports, the passengers were reminded to wear their face covering properly.

“After having a conversation with the group, our team at SLC confirmed with the customers that they agree to comply with the face-covering policy if they were rebooked on flights to their destination. They ultimately agreed and were rebooked to complete their travel,” the spokesperson shares.

Utah man arrested, twice, for violating Hawaii travel quarantine →

American Airlines, [like other U.S. airlines](#), began requiring customers to wear a face-covering while onboard back in May 2020.

SLC International Airport to open new Concourse B →

This is not the first time the Salt Lake City International Airport has had to take action when customers failed to comply with mandatory mask-wearing.

In early January, passengers accused of harassing Utah’s [Sen. Mitt Romney](#) while traveling from Salt Lake City to Washington D.C. were added to [Delta Air Lines’ no-fly list](#), according to a report.

Reports: Passengers accused of harassing Sen. Romney added to Delta’s no-fly list →

Reports show that over 800 people are now on Delta’s no-fly list for not complying with mask requirements.

Empty seat suggestion leads to man being removed from flight in Salt Lake

by Jeremy Harris, KUTV
Wednesday, February 3rd 2021

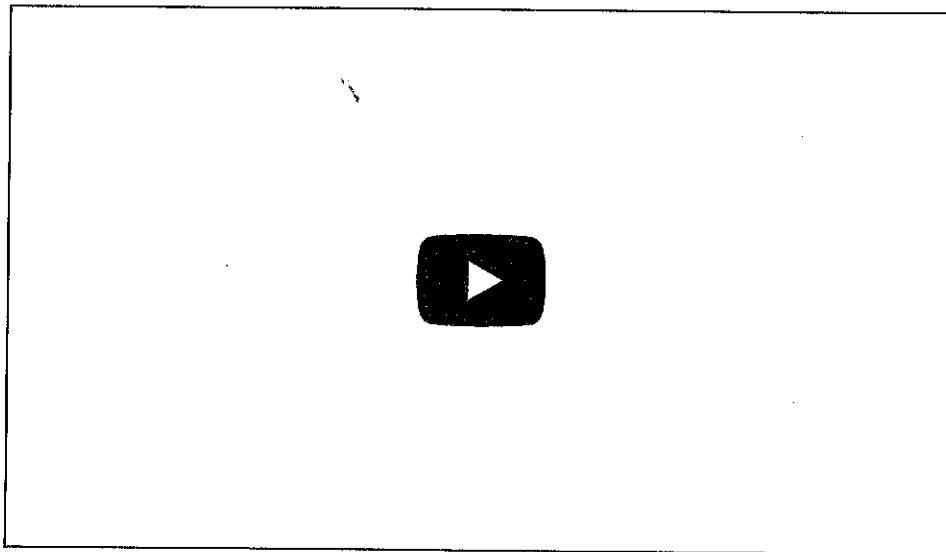
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SALT LAKE CITY (KUTV) — With empty seats on a flight leaving the Salt Lake International Airport, a man says his suggestion to spread passengers out led to him being removed from the plane.

The incident happened on a Delta flight from Salt Lake City to St. Louis on Tuesday.

The passenger who recorded the incident, who asked to only be identified by his first name, Garth, says while the plane was still at the gate, he noticed most of the passengers were seated in the last several rows of the airplane while there were rows of empty seats toward the middle and front.

“There was no reason not to [move the passengers up]; they didn’t mention anything about the plane balance or anything, and with a few people moving a few feet that should have been pretty easy for them to handle,” Garth told 2News.



But when he was told it wasn’t an option to move passengers forward, the situation between Garth and the flight crew escalated.

“They’re going to punish us all by not having people sit in those seats ... You’re not going to get it,” Garth can be heard saying in the video.

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The passenger who recorded the incident, who asked to only be identified by his first name, Garth, says while the plane was still at the gate, he noticed most of the passengers were seated in the last several rows of the airplane while there were rows of empty seats toward the middle and front. (KUTV)

"Customers purchasing seats in one class are not randomly permitted free upgrades into another class, even when seats are available," a Delta Airlines spokesperson wrote in a statement to 2News.

Garth says the Delta crew had offered passengers the opportunity to pay to upgrade classes before boarding.

"I'm fine with all the COVID regulations and the guidelines, and I've always been patient, but upselling safety, that's where I draw the line. I said 'you know this isn't right, and you know I'm going to complain,'" Garth said.

In Garth's video, he tells a flight crew member that he refuses to get off the plane and would only leave if police told him to. He claims he was removed from the plane after saying he was going to post his complaints on social media.

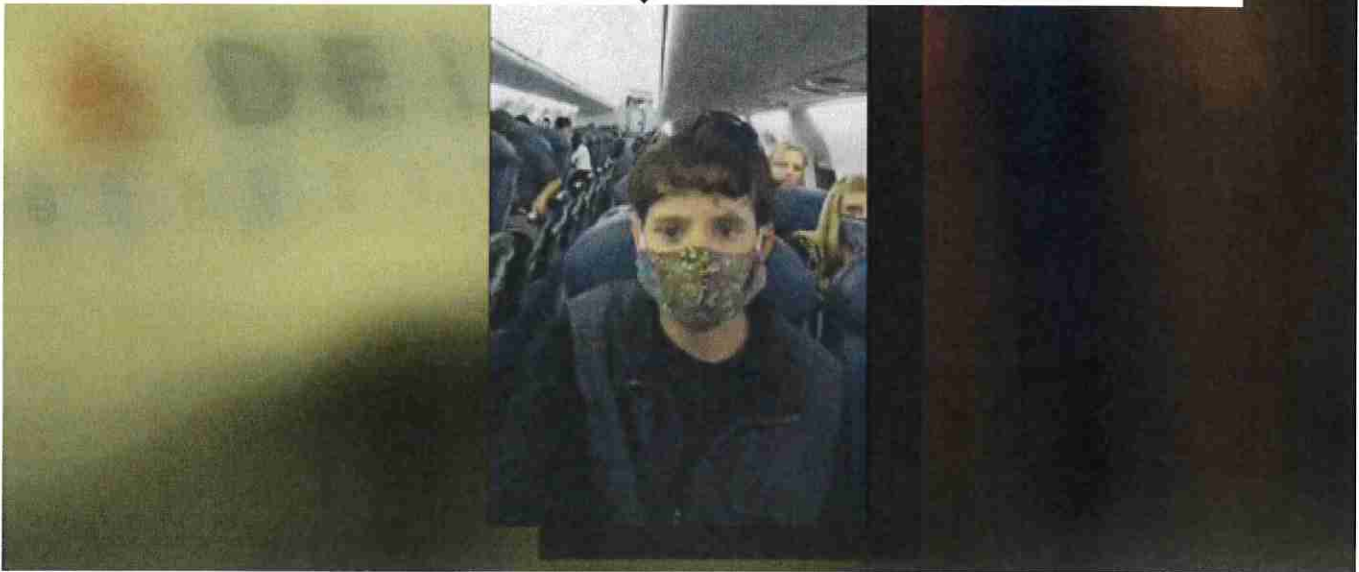
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"There was no reason not to [move the passengers up]; they didn't mention anything about the plane balance or anything, and with a few people moving a few feet that should have been pretty easy for them to handle," Garth told 2News. (KUTV)

"As passenger safety and security is our top priority, failure to follow crew instructions can result in removal from the aircraft," the statement from Delta says.

The video shows the other passengers urge Garth to leave the plane, which he does.

"At that point I decided it was best to leave the plane," he said.

Delta Airlines has implemented COVID-19 protections on flights, including a mask requirement, filtered air, and **empty middle seats** between passengers.

MORE TO EXPLORE

Feds quickly charge suspect in Salt Lake City gang shooting

Dead body found in Jordan River in Salt Lake City