

The Houston Airport System

Houston has one of the busiest, yet least congested airport systems in the U.S.

HOUSTON AIRPORT SYSTEM (HAS) PASSENGERS, CARGO AND AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS, 2018			
HAS Airports	Passengers	Air Freight (metric tons)	Aircraft Operations
George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH)	43,807,72	524,715	466,738
William P. Hobby Airport (HOU)	14,476,469	11,393	205,115
Ellington Airport (EFD)	0	0	75,216
Total	58,284,189	536,108	747,069
Source: HAS Statistical Dashboard, Houston Airport System			

- The Houston Airport System (HAS) ranks as one of the largest multi-airport systems in the world. The system comprises George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH), William P. Hobby Airport (HOU) and Ellington Airport (EFD).
- Scheduled and charter passenger carriers fly nonstop to 123 domestic and 68 international destinations from Houston; 35 airlines provide scheduled passenger service.
- HAS served more than 58.2 million passengers in '18, a 7.6 percent increase from the previous year. HAS also saw over 536,000 metric tons of air freight move through its gates, an increase of 16.1 percent over '17.
- IAH opened in 1969 and is Houston's largest airport. The airport is the largest hub for United Airlines and the 15th busiest airport in the U.S. based on flight operations. IAH flies to more than 180 destinations including more than 65 direct and nonstop international destinations. IAH offers service to more Mexican destinations than any other airport in the U.S.; weekly nonstops from Houston total 415 to nearly 30 destinations in Mexico.
- HOU was acquired by the City of Houston in 1937. Today, the airport is the 36th busiest in the U.S. for passenger totals. Home to one of Southwest Airlines' most important and active hubs, HOU offers nonstop direct airline service to more than 65 destinations within U.S., Mexico, Latin America and the Caribbean.
- EFD, opened in 1917, is a joint military and civilian airport and serves as a base of operations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the U.S. Military, and the Department of Homeland Security and a variety of general aviation tenant. It is also home to the regional headquarters of the US Coast Guard. EFD was approved as the nation's 10th licensed commercial spaceport in 2015.
- Both IAH and HOU have been awarded 4-star service ratings by Skytrax, a global air transport rating organization. The ratings make Houston the third city in the world and the first in the U.S. with two airports earning four stars for service.