



Jan 31, 2023 10:01 +08

## Changi Airport handled 32.2 million passengers in 2022

*December passenger traffic reached 72% of pre-Covid levels, connectivity restored to 82%*

**SINGAPORE, 31 January 2023** – Singapore Changi Airport handled 32.2 million passenger movements in 2022, reaching almost half of the traffic in 2019, before the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. Aircraft movements, which include landings and takeoffs, totalled 219,000, 57.2% of 2019 levels[\[1\]](#). Airfreight throughput[\[2\]](#) registered 1.85 million tonnes for 2022, a year-on-

year decline of 4.8%.

In 2022, all regions registered strong recovery in passenger traffic, with North America even slightly exceeding pre-Covid levels on a full-year basis, and Southwest Pacific, South Asia, and Europe each reaching two-thirds of 2019 traffic. Closer to home, Southeast Asia has also seen a robust pickup in traffic following the region's reopening, closing out the year with a new high of two million passenger movements in December 2022, representing over three-quarters of December 2019 traffic.

Changi Airport's top five passenger markets for the year were, in order, Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia, India and Thailand. Similar to 2019, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Jakarta were Changi Airport's three busiest routes in 2022<sup>[3]</sup>. The Singapore-Kuala Lumpur route is currently the world's busiest international route based on seat capacity<sup>[4]</sup>.

On the cargo front, cargo flows dipped slightly against the backdrop of global economic uncertainty and inflationary pressures. Changi's top five air cargo markets for the year were, in order, China, Australia, United States of America, Hong Kong and Japan.

### **Strongest traffic in December**

Passenger traffic continued to grow throughout 2022, reaching a high in December with 4.62 million passenger movements recorded. This was 72% of Changi Airport's traffic in December 2019. The busiest week of the year (12 to 18 December) saw more than 1.07 million passengers passing through Changi's terminals, or 82% of the weekly average in 2019. For the month, aircraft movements registered 25,400, reaching 76% of pre-Covid levels. Airfreight throughput, compared to December 2021, fell 17.3% to 153,000 tonnes.

Among Changi's top 10 markets, South Korea saw passenger traffic grow beyond pre-Covid levels in December 2022, driven in part by additional capacity from Changi's airline partners, including new airlines T'way Air and Air Premia on the Singapore-Seoul route, and Scoot plying the new Singapore-Jeju route.

Mr Lim Ching Kiat, Executive Vice President of Air Hub and Cargo

Development, Changi Airport Group (CAG), said, “In the past two years, we strengthened our airport offerings and continued to engage our airline partners in anticipation of travel revival. Changi Airport community’s efforts have paid off – the airport is now leading the Asia Pacific region in travel recovery. The re-opening of Terminals 2 and 4 has helped restore airport capacity to cater to the strong travel demand. We look forward to welcoming more flights in the coming months, for example, Ethiopian Airlines will commence flights from Addis Ababa in March. Notwithstanding near-term challenges such as global economic uncertainty and inflationary pressures, we are confident that we will be able to progressively restore Changi Airport’s connectivity and traffic to pre-Covid levels.”

### **Enhancing connectivity**

In 2022, Changi Airport welcomed eight new airlines. Of these, there are seven passenger airlines – Aircalin, Bamboo Airways, Cambodia Airways, Citilink, HK Express, Thai Vietjet Air and T’way Air – and one freighter operator Atlas Air. Four new passenger city links were established for the year – Jeju (South Korea), Nouméa (New Caledonia), Pune (India) and Sibu (Malaysia).

As at the first week of January 2023, 96 airlines operate over 5,600 weekly scheduled flights at Changi Airport, connecting Singapore to 143 cities in 48 countries and territories worldwide. This is 82% of Changi’s pre-Covid connectivity.

### **Strengthening partnerships**

With border restrictions lifted and safe management measures eased earlier in the year, CAG also reinstated various industry events to reconnect with trade and airline partners. These include the Let’s Talk Cargo event held on 10 March and the Changi Airline Awards held on 4 May, where CAG took the chance to thank trade and airline partners for weathering through tough times with Changi.

In August, CAG welcomed the partnership between DHL Express and Singapore Airlines to operate five Boeing 777 freighters out of Changi Airport, which will fly on routes between the United States and Singapore via points in North Asia and Australia. The first two aircraft began operations at Changi Airport in 2022, strengthening the Changi air cargo hub by facilitating

more express volumes between USA and Asia Pacific via Singapore.

## **Social media assets to recap Changi Airport's 2022**

Facebook Post (30 January 2023): <https://changi.me/3DdcLk3>

YouTube Video (30 December 2022): <https://changi.me/3XOp2Uk>

[1] A monthly breakdown of Changi Airport's passenger traffic, aircraft movements and airfreight throughput in 2022 can be found in Annex A.

[2] For airfreight throughput, comparison is made to the previous year as volumes had recovered in 2021.

[3] See Annex B for list of top 10 passenger markets and city links.

[4] Source: OAG (<https://www.oag.com/busiest-routes-right-now>)

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### ***About Changi Airport Group***

Changi Airport Group (Singapore) Pte Ltd (CAG) ([www.changiairportgroup.com](http://www.changiairportgroup.com)) was formed on 16 June 2009 and the corporatisation of Singapore Changi Airport (IATA: SIN, ICAO: WSSS) followed on 1 July 2009. As the company managing Changi Airport, CAG undertakes key functions focusing on airport operations and management, air hub development, commercial activities and airport emergency services. CAG also manages Seletar Airport (IATA: XSP, ICAO: WSSL) and through its subsidiary

Changi Airports International, invests in and manages foreign airports.

As one of Asia's most connected international aviation hubs, Changi Airport links Singapore to some 140 cities globally, with over 90 airlines operating more than 5,500 weekly flights. Jewel Changi Airport, a multi-dimensional lifestyle destination, opened in April 2019, adding to Changi Airport's shopping and dining offerings of over 550 F&B and retail outlets across the airport. The world's most awarded airport, Changi has won over 650 accolades for its consistent and excellent airport staff service, passenger experience and safety standards.

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