

## Sharjah airport passenger traffic up in 2021

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“Despite various challenges, Sharjah Airport registered numerous achievements in 2021, reinforcing its position in the global aviation industry.

These achievements can be attributed to the vision of Dr. Sheikh Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah, and the guidance of Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammad bin Sultan Al Qasimi, the Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler of Sharjah, and Chairman of the Executive Council, that have shaped it to become one of the best regional airports,” said Ali Salim Al Midfa, chairman of Sharjah Airport Authority.

In an indication of post-pandemic recovery, and a promising travel season ahead, Sharjah Airport served more than seven million passengers with more than 57,000 aircraft movements in 2021.

Consistent with 2019 figures, the airport had approximately 1.2 million passengers in December.

Meanwhile, the volume of cargo last year crossed 140,717 tonnes, while the volume

of sea-air cargo reached 18,696 tonnes, representing a 22.27 percent increase from 2019.

This comes in as the ongoing comprehensive expansion project aims to raise the airport's capacity to 20 million passengers, with an estimated total area of more than 120,000 square metres. This project would cost up to AED1.9bn and includes a complete expansion of the passenger terminal to increase capacity and ensure smooth movement through the airport.

"The year 2021 was exceptional, as we managed to enhance travel flow and passenger comfort, and continued to work on development and modernisation projects and prepare for the overall recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic," said Faisal Bin Saoud Al Qassimi, director of Sharjah Airport Authority.

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