

Annual Noise and Operations Report 2023

Prepared by:
Korey Barnes
Environmental & Noise Analyst

PDK Good Neighbor Program



Introduction:

DeKalb-Peachtree Airport (PDK) is located in a highly noise-sensitive area as it is surrounded by residential communities. Aircraft noise is noise pollution generated by an aircraft, and may occur during all phases of flight. For instance, while aircraft are on the ground, taxiing, operating auxiliary power units (APUs), and conducting run-ups may contribute noise pollution to the surrounding areas. While aircraft are in the air, noise pollution can occur underneath and to the sides of departure and arrival paths.

The primary goal of the **PDK Good Neighbor Program** is to serve as a community-based program with aims to reduce aircraft noise levels in the vicinity of the airport. Since its inception, the program has sought to increase awareness of airport operations and develop airport/community partnerships with the surrounding cities of Chamblee, Doraville, Dunwoody, Brookhaven, North Atlanta (including the Buckhead community), and others. The program is a multifaceted one that uses many approaches to convey information in a succinct manner.

The program strives to reduce overall aircraft noise disturbances by soliciting airport-user involvement. Community and airport participation, learning, and cooperation are the keys to the program's success.

This report provides a monthly summary of airport operations, noise disturbances, and impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods to airport users and the surrounding communities.

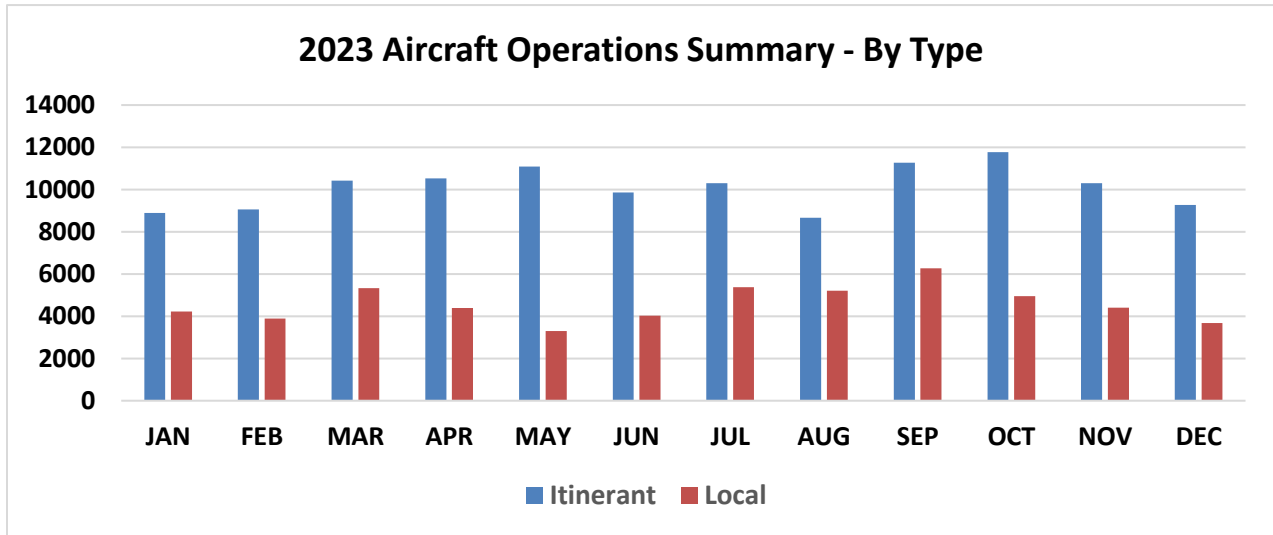
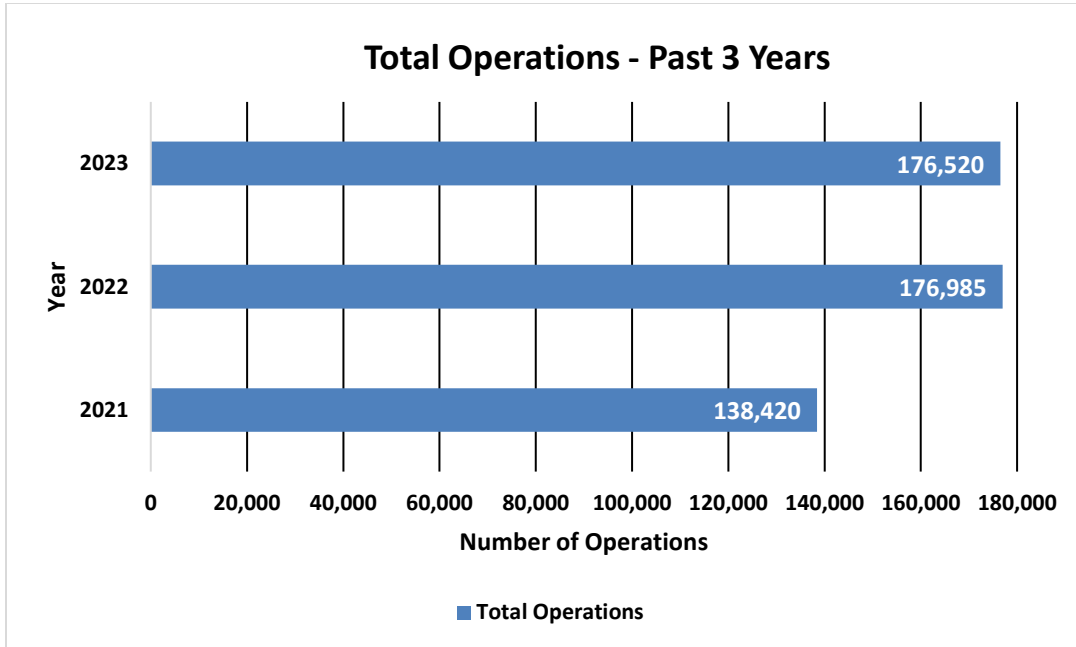
2023 Aircraft Operations:

	This Year	Last Year	% Change from 2021	5-Year Average
Total Operations	176,520	176,895	-0.22%	162,243
Itinerant	121,459	122,574	-0.91%	115,517
Local	55,061	54,321	1.36%	46,726
Voluntary Curfew Ops	4,644	4,698	-1.15%	4,419
Prior Authorization	2,295	(148) Noise disturbance calls associated with these flights. (81) Voluntary curfew ops were associated with these flights.		

Prior Authorization
(Section 6-93 Code)
Operation
Itinerant
Local
Voluntary Curfew Ops

Aircraft certified by the FAA with a max gross take-off weight greater than 75,000 pounds
One take-off or landing. Touch-and-go counts as two operations
Non-touch-and-go (regular operations)
Operations within 20 miles of Airport
Operations that occur between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

2023 Aircraft Operations Summary



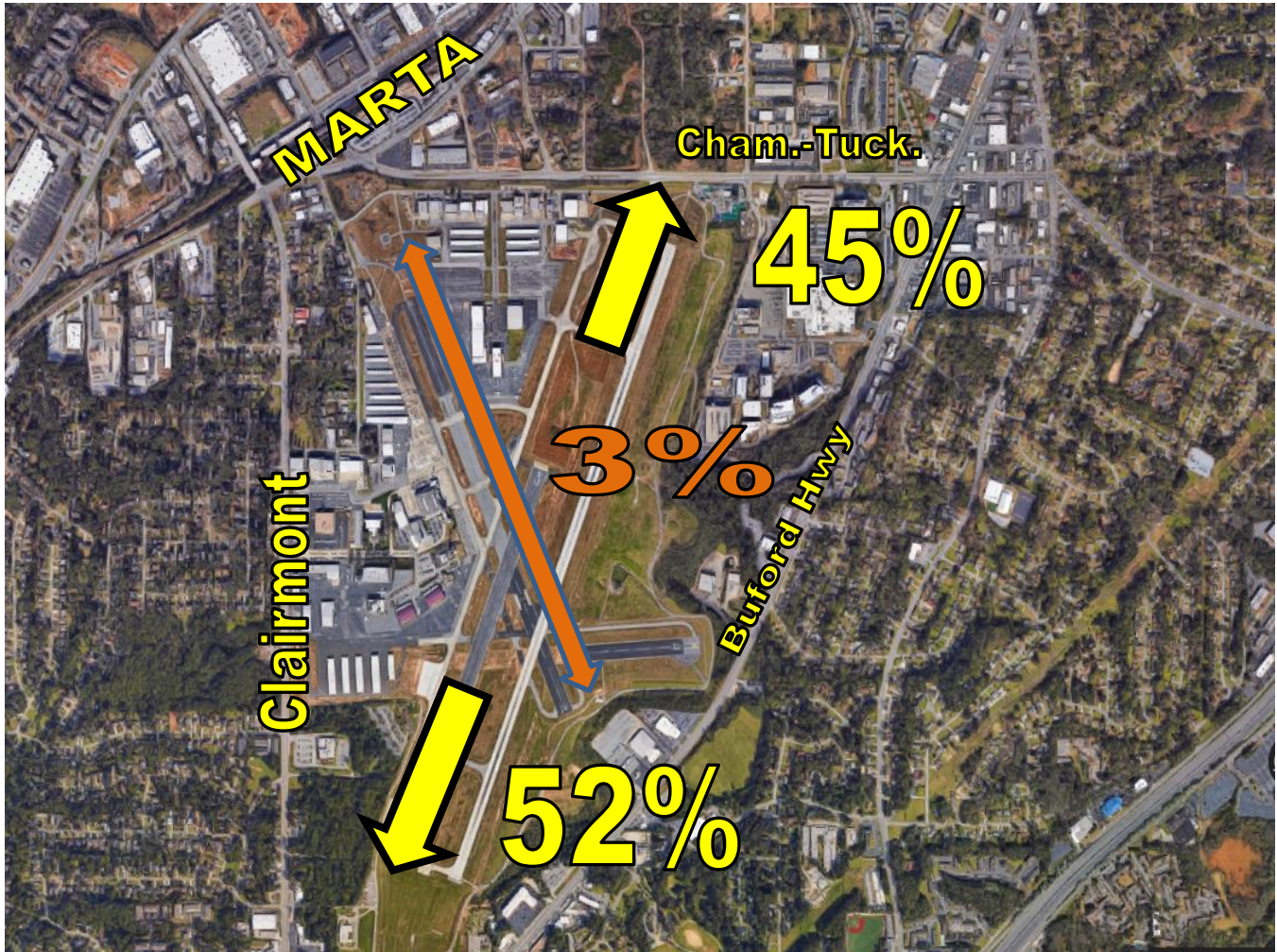
2022 Total Operations	2023 Total Operations	Change from 2022 to 2023
176,895	176,520	-0.22%

2023 Operations by Month

	Itinerant	Local	Total Tower-Recorded Operations	Voluntary Curfew
JAN	8,898	4,220	13,118	290
FEB	9,065	3,890	12,955	347
MAR	10,428	5,336	15,764	431
APR	10,520	4,389	14,909	418
MAY	11,091	3,303	14,394	427
JUN	9,868	4,031	13,899	410
JUL	10,302	5,831	15,683	404
AUG	8,664	5,209	13,873	352
SEP	11,270	6,276	17,546	476
OCT	11,776	4,948	16,724	432
NOV	10,307	4,406	14,713	361
DEC	9,270	3,672	12,942	296

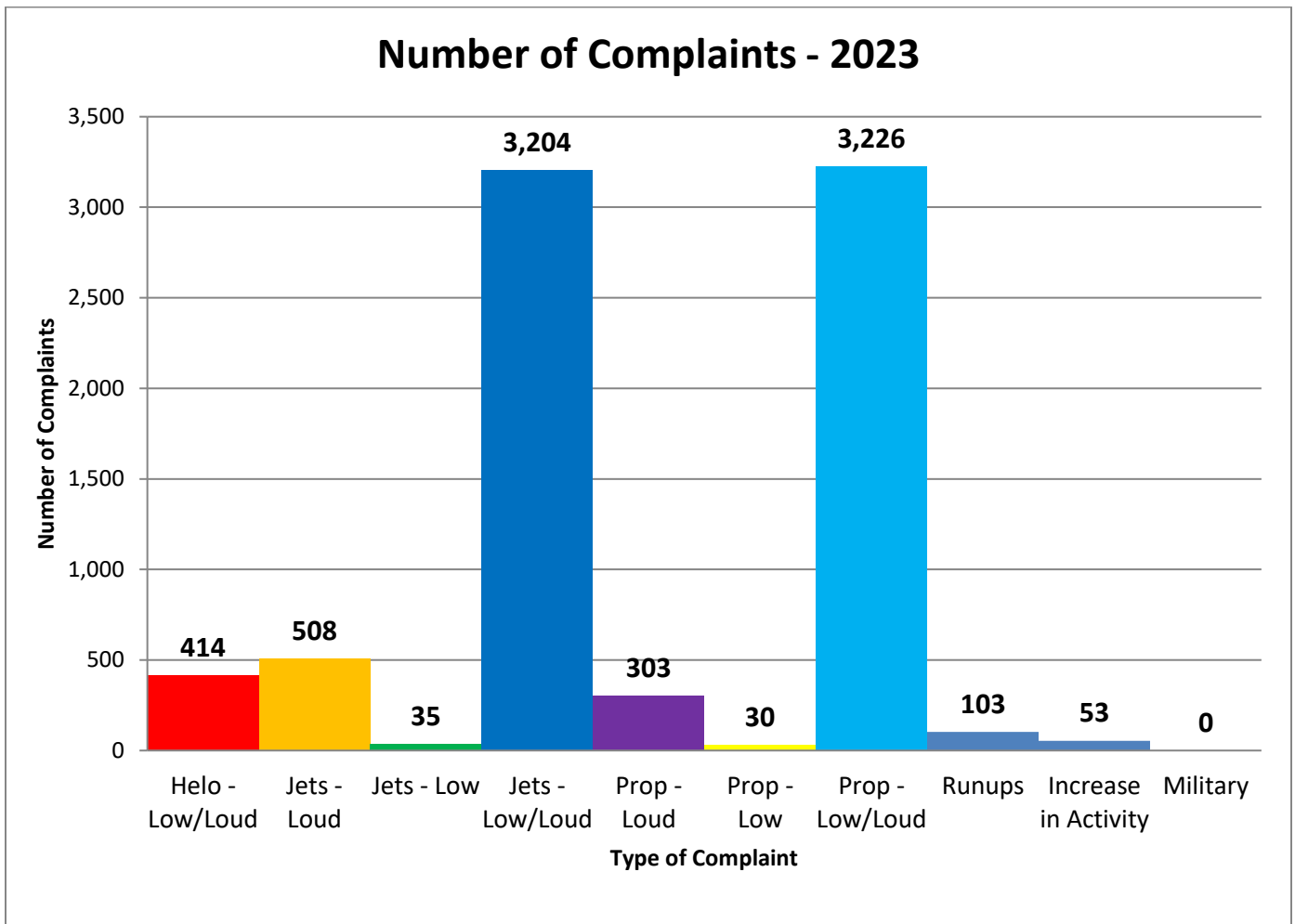
Runway Mode of Operations – 2023

Directional use of runways has a major effect on flight patterns and the areas affected by flight operations. Weather and wind direction generally determines runway selection. When the tower is open, the FAA Air Traffic Control Tower determines the directional use of the runways. When possible, the tower will try to keep operations on a northbound flow (takeoffs and landings to the north) for noise abatement.

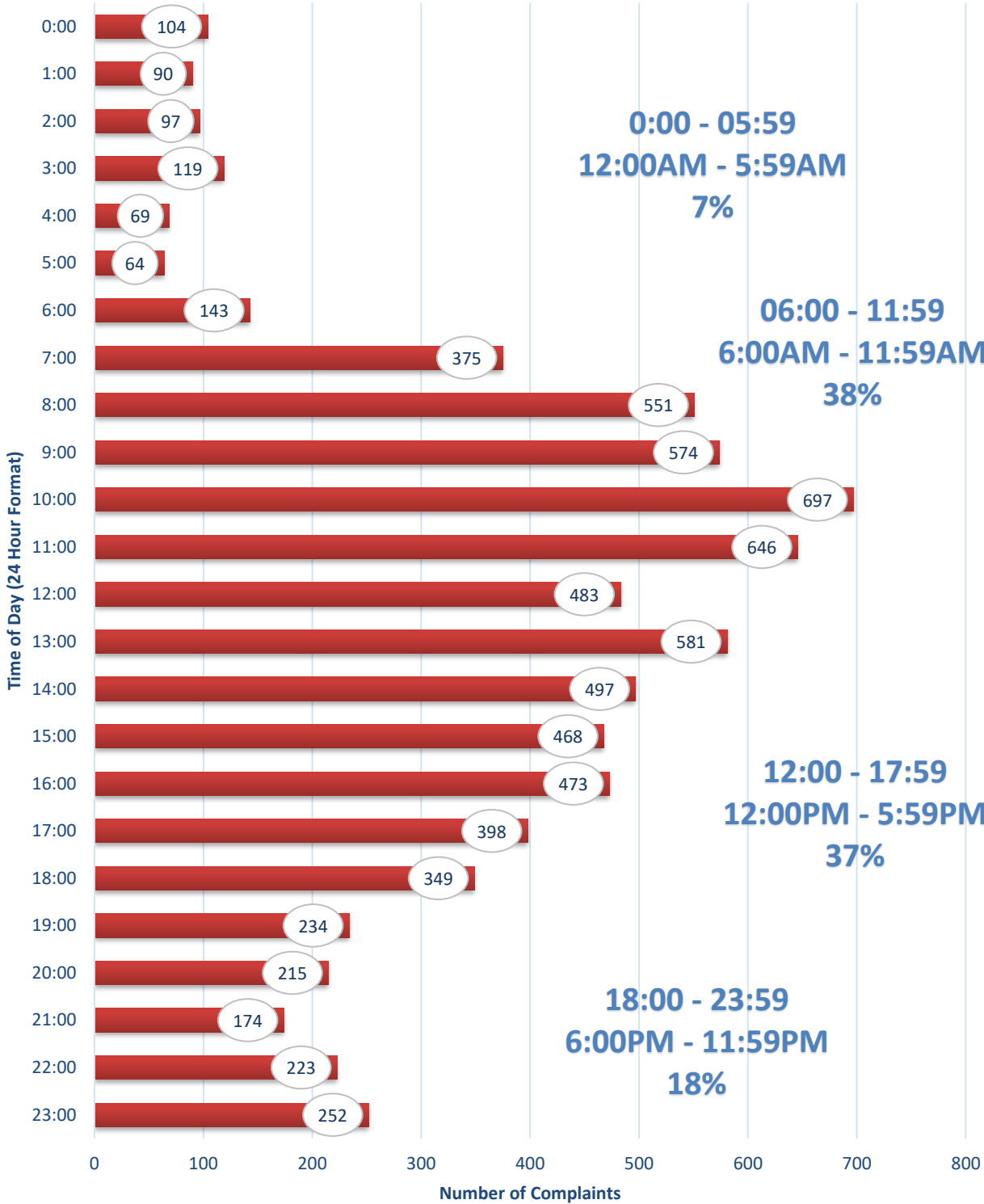


Noise Disturbance Summary

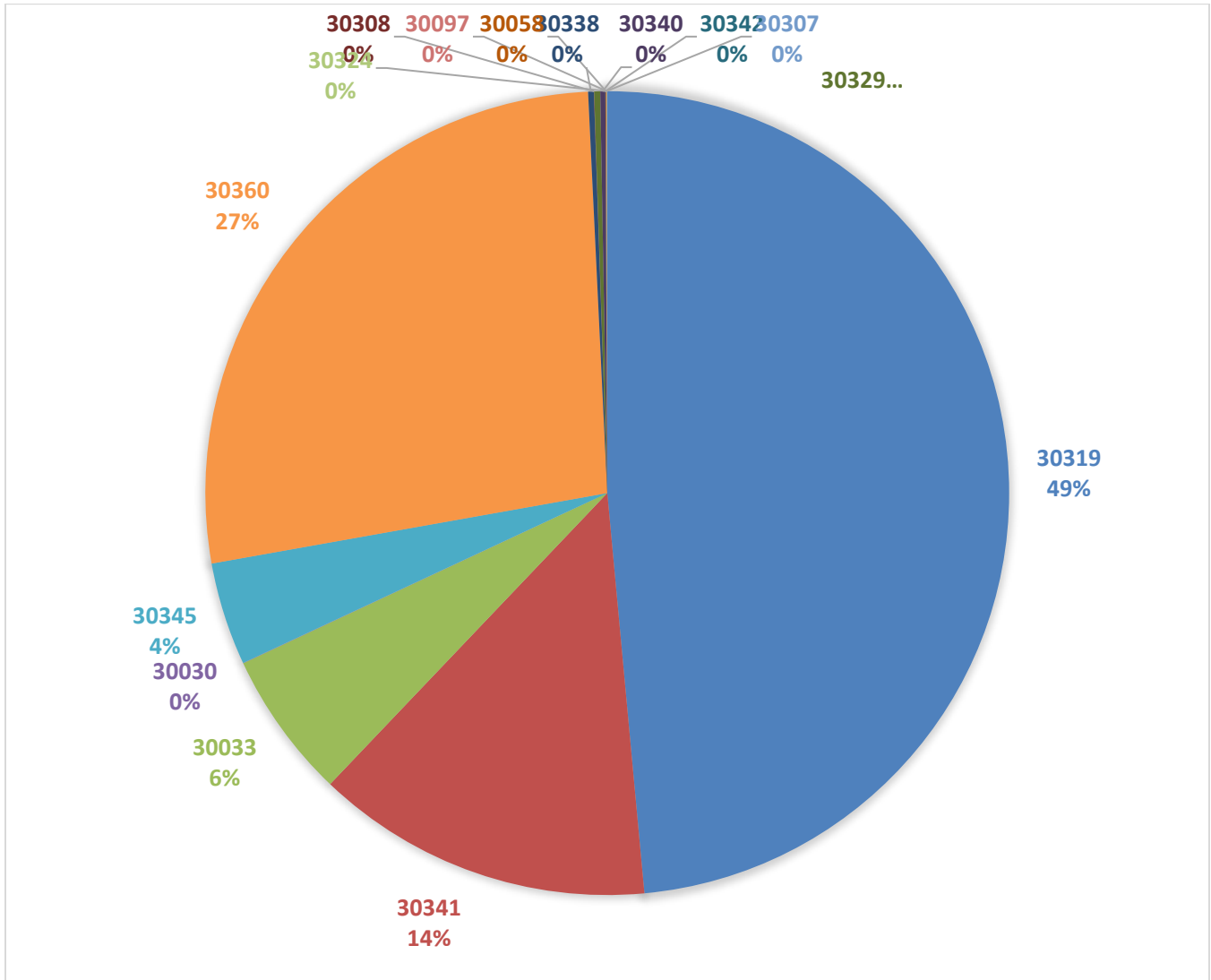
Total complaints for 2023	Monthly Complaint Average 2023	2023 Complaints per Household <i>(minus top two/Households)</i>	2023 Complaints per Household <i>All Inclusive</i>
7,876	656	26.6	88.5



Number of Complaints by Hour - 2023



Complaints by Zip Code



Zip Code Guide		
Zip Code	Community	% of Complaints
30319	Brookhaven	49%
30341	Chamblee - North	14%
30345	Chamblee – South	4%

30360	Dunwoody	27%
30329	North Druid Hills	<0.1%
30338	Dunwoody	<0.1%
30340	Tucker	<0.1%
30033	North Druid Hills	6%
30058	Stonecrest	<0.1%
30342	Atlanta	<0.1%
30030	Decatur	<0.1%
30324	Brookhaven	<0.1%
30097	Duluth	<0.1%
30307	Atlanta	<0.1%
30308	Atlanta	<0.1%

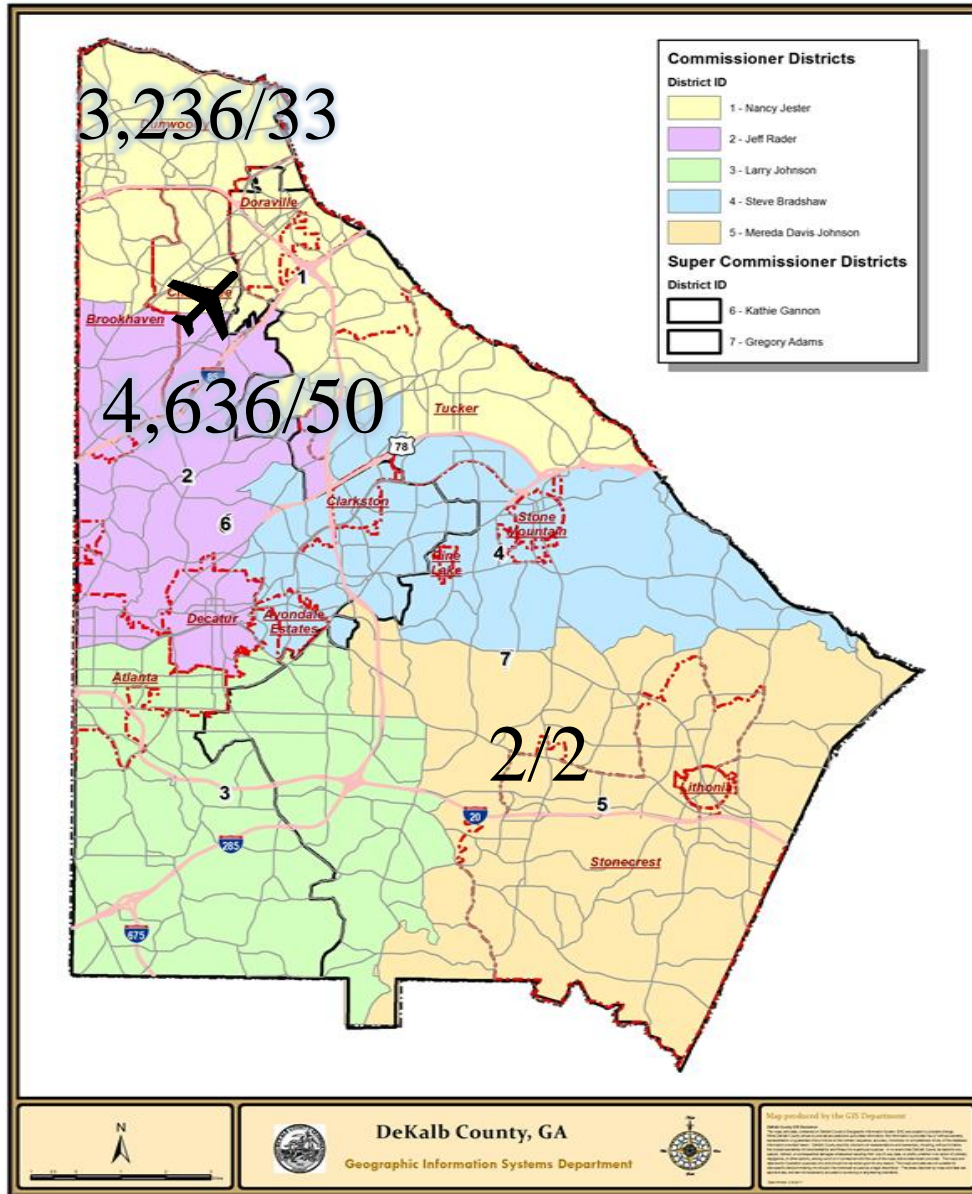
Complaints by Caller

Name	Address	City	Zip Code	Complaints
Robson	2199 Fisher Trl NE	Atlanta	30345	1
Schneeberg	2707 Ashford Rd, NE	Atlanta	30319	39
HYNES	2276 Tanglewood Cir NE	Atlanta	30345	11
Reed	3844 Ensign Dr	Atlanta	30341	1
Sims	1591 Harts Mill Rd NE	Brookhaven	30319	2
Adams	1378 Noel Dr NE	Brookhaven	30319	3
Vara	1806 Mount Royal Dr NE	Atlanta	30329	1
Hatchett	5655 Windy Ridge Dr	Atlanta	30342	1
Jones-Harrell	3849 Captain Dr	Atlanta	30341	1
Penn	30339 Skyland Dr NE	Chamblee	30341	1
Allen	1501 Woodshire Dr	Decatur	30033	322
Johnson	5200 Peachtree Rd	Atlanta	30341	386
Gokce	1955 Fairway Cir NE	Brookhaven	30319	14
Masone	2352 Burch Cir NE	Brookhaven	30319	229
Cody	3447 Raymond Dr	Atlanta	30340	8
Pohlmann	1050 Capital Club Cir NE	Brookhaven	30319	2
Maddox	3093 Janice Cir	Atlanta	30341	1
HUTTEMEYER	2295 Capehart Cir NE	Atlanta	30345	3
Smith	2254 Springwood Dr	Decatur	30033	34
Sullivan	2376 Leafmore Dr	Decatur	30033	1
Hummel	2854 Greenbrook Way NE	Atlanta	30345	138
Durden	2500 Emerald Ridge Ct NE	Atlanta	30345	3
Klimak	2349 Dunwoody Hollow Dr	Atlanta	30360	3
Osmanski	1229 Euclid Ave NE	Atlanta	30307	1
Lee	2249 Capehart Cir NE	Atlanta	30345	2
Rodriguez	1920 Variations Dr NE	Atlanta	30329	2
Schnaubelt	2078 Clairmeade Valley Rd NE	Atlanta	30329	10
Claar	1771 Toni Way	Atlanta	30341	3
Rosa	2105 Pine Forest Dr NE	Atlanta	30345	2
McWhorter	1380 Nalley Cir	Decatur	30033	17
Anon-1	LaVenture Forest	Atlanta	30341	614
Sanke	4485 Huntington Cir	Atlanta	30338	9
Brooks	2743 Redding Rd NE	Brookhaven	30319	11
Bowden	2527 Dering Pl NE	Atlanta	30345	4
Gravolet	1797 Bragg St	Atlanta	30341	9
Voltolin	7400 Asbury Dr	Lithonia	30058	1
Kendrick	1476 Brianwood Rd	Decatur	30033	1
Belle isle	722 Willivee Dr	Decatur	30033	2
Hunnicutt	2132 Meadowcliff Dr NE	Atlanta	30345	5
Bates	1801 Hickory Rd	Atlanta	30341	1
Dowdy	6659 Chupp Rd	Lithonia	30058	1

Lee	126 Mimosa Dr	Decatur	30030	1
Bui	2768 Tryon Pl NE	Brookhaven	30319	2
Tabbara	3602 Ashcroft Bend NE	Brookhaven	30319	23
Lowndes	2416 Dunwoody Hollow Dr	Dunwoody	30360	2106
Townsend	2230 Tanglewood Rd	Decatur	30033	37
Dykewicz	2486 Susaleen Ct NE	Atlanta	30345	50
Needle	2586 Warwick Cir NE	Atlanta	30345	36
Dombroski	1878 Hickory Rd	Atlanta	30341	4
Prince	1986 Ellwyn Dr	Atlanta	30341	15
Farinola	2361 Burch Cir NE	Brookhaven	30319	25
Bland	2406 Greenglade Rd NE	Atlanta	30345	3
Spatafora	5009 Lakeside Dr	Atlanta	30360	16
Mangone	2449 Wawona Dr NE	Brookhaven	30319	1
Cobb	384 7th St NE	Atlanta	30308	1
Havard	5405 Hoylake Ct	Duluth	30097	1
Simelaro	2831 Shady Valley Dr NE	Atlanta	30324	1
Blackmon	1846 Duke Rd	Atlanta	30341	1
Kempter	2431 Skyland Way NE	Brookhaven	30319	3452
Yates	1895 9th St	Atlanta	30341	17
Penn	3039 Skyland Dr NE	Chamblee	30341	4
Biel	4617 Brierwood Pl	Atlanta	30360	1
Bain	1859 Georgiana Dr NE	Atlanta	30329	3
Beverly	2494 Stonington Rd	Atlanta	30338	2
Fazzone	2365 Dunwoody Hollow Dr	Atlanta	30360	4
Sheffield	1920 Gainsborough Dr	Atlanta	30341	1
Mosler	1918 Gregory Run NE	Atlanta	30345	3
Sykes	1994 Ellwyn Dr	Atlanta	30341	1
Fox	2423 Woodacres Rd NE	Atlanta	30345	62
Henson	1391 Altamont Dr	Decatur	30033	52
Collins	2803 Winding Ln NE	Brookhaven	30319	5
Douglas	2427 Coosawattee Dr NE	Brookhaven	30319	7
Snyder	3439 Allison Dr	Doraville	30340	8
Tanev	1518 Dresden Dr NE	Brookhaven	30319	1
McSwanson	3789 Donaldson Dr	Atlanta	30341	5
Brown	2146 Tanglewood Rd	Decatur	30033	1
Cabrera	3203 Clairwood Ter	Atlanta	30341	1
Philips	2442 Wentworth Dr NE	Atlanta	30345	3
Barnes	2000 Airport Rd	Atlanta	30341	1
Elliott	1840 Merrimac Ct NE	Atlanta	30329	1
Zaragoza	2479 Brookhurst Dr	Atlanta	30338	7
Morton	1723 Wayland Cir NE	Brookhaven	30319	5
Gill	3091 Colonial Way Apt E3	Atlanta	30341	2
McKay	3222 Clairwood Ter	Atlanta	30341	1
Meier	2777 Ashford Rd NE	Brookhaven	30319	1

Kendrick	1796 Emory Ridge Dr NE	Atlanta	30329	1
Lien	1936 Forest Green Dr NE	Atlanta	30329	1

Complaints per Commission District



Total Number of Complaints
Total Number of Complainants

7,876/
87

There were 3 complainant(s) outside of DeKalb County with 3 complaint(s) total.

Correlation Chart of Noise Complaints to Operations

The airport correlated **7,775 (98.7%)** out of **7,876** complaints:

- **7,465 or 94.8%** of the noise complaints were found to be **Direct** correlations
- **310 or 3.9 %** were **Indirect** correlations to operations
- **101 or 1.3%** were **Not Correlated**.

- **Direct** = *Linked to a **specific flight operation to/from PDK** over a house/monitor (NOMS or manual correlation).*
- **Indirect** = ***Not linked to a specific flight operation** (take-off thrust, reverse thrust; maintenance run-ups) **OR flight operation not originating or terminating at PDK.***
- **Not correlated** = *There was no noise event and/or aircraft track based on either NOMS correlation or manual research.*

Definitions:

NOMS: Noise and Operations Monitoring System

Op Type: Operation; Approach, Departure, or Overflight

Name: Name of Complainant

Offense Start: Date/Time of offense to complainant

Flight ID: Tail number of aircraft or military call sign

Flight Time: Actual Date/Time of correlated offense

NMS: Noise Monitoring Station

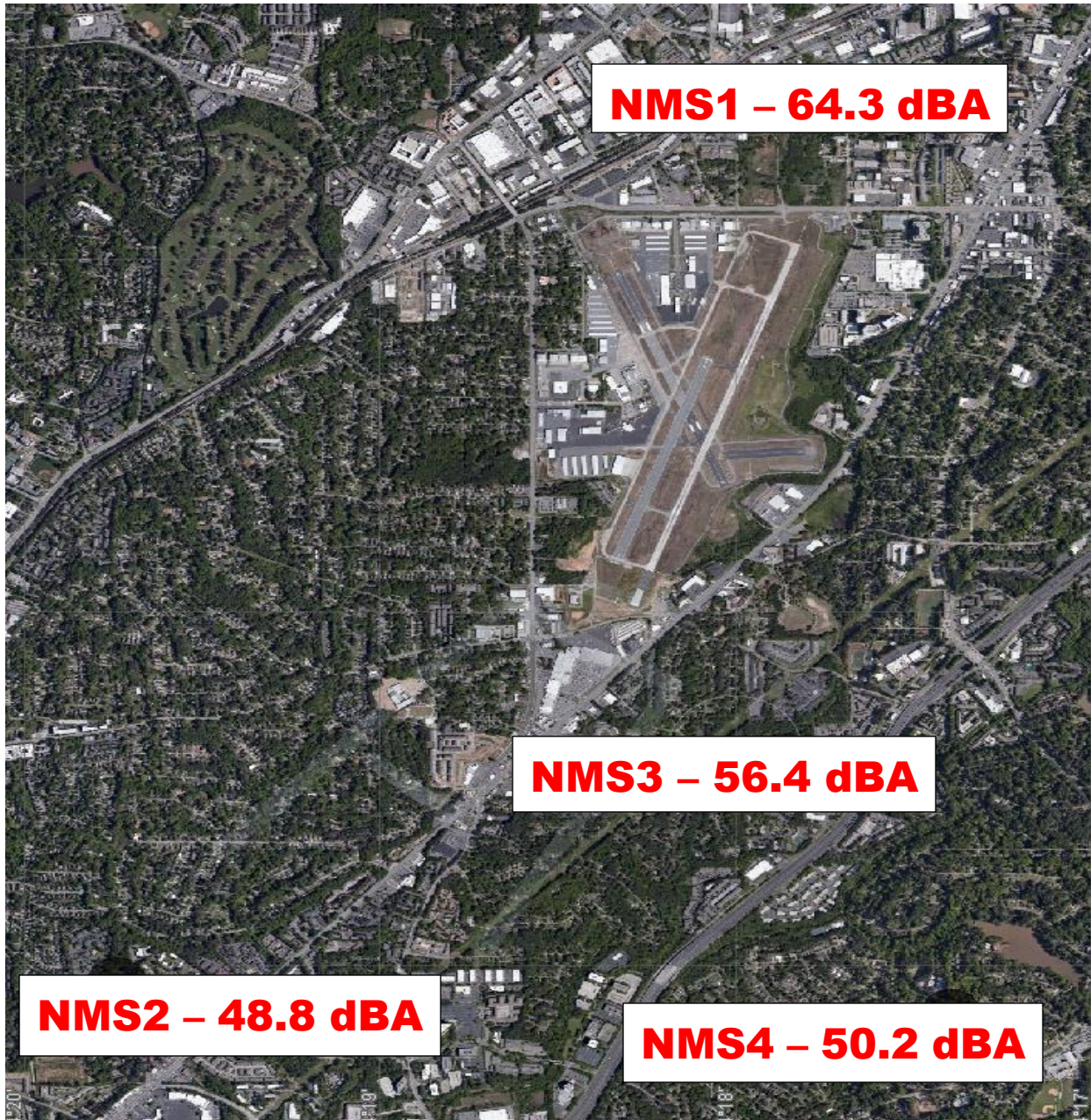
Rwy: Runway

LMAX: Maximum A-weighted sound level for a given event

Please contact: *Korey Barnes, Airport Noise and Environmental Analyst*, for more information regarding the PDK Good Neighbor Program at (770) 936-5440 or kbarnes@dekalbcountyga.gov.

PDK maintains a **hotline** that permits residents to report noise concerns by dialing: **(770) 936-5442** or e-mailing: pdknoise@dekalbcountyga.gov

2023 Noise Levels at Monitors



Noise Terminology

- *Decibels (dB) are the unit of measurement on the loudness scale. Decibels that a human can hear are called “A-weighted” or “dBA” on the sound frequency scale.*
- *The decibel scale is logarithmic, not linear. The smallest detectable change 1 dB; 3 dB for a human is readily detectable; 10 dB seems twice as loud.*

- *L_{max}* – The maximum A-weighted sound level for a given event – the highest level registered on the scale or meter; is not related to the duration for the event.
- *DNL* – A 24-hour time-averaged sound exposure level. It is the noise metric of choice in aircraft sound level measurement. It is also used to define noise contours of equal exposure. All Federal agencies have adopted DNL (LDNA) as the metric for airport noise analysis. (Day Night Level) (Day Night Level A-weighted)
- *Leq* – The steady A-weighted sound level over any specified period. It is used to identify the average sound level over a given period of time.

Voluntary Curfew Operations & Operators Summary/Letter Status

Operations Summary:

The airport identified a total of **4,622 (99.5%)** of the **4,644** operations during the voluntary curfew period (11PM-6AM) during **2023**. Of the **4,622** identified operations, **2,447 (53%)** were classified as **medical transport (e.g., Med-Evac) or other critical flights**.

- Out of the *identified* operations, **583 one-time** operations were conducted during this period.
- Out of the *identified* operations, **4,039 multi-time** operations were conducted during this period, (i.e., sum of all aircraft operations in which an aircraft flew more than once during the voluntary curfew).

Operators Identified / Multi-Use:

1,120 operators were identified using the airport during the voluntary curfew period (does not include unknown aircraft).

536 operators were identified using the airport during the voluntary curfew period for 2 or more times during the month.

79 multi-use operators were identified as Med-Evac and/or emergency flights.

Complaints received from operations conducted during the voluntary curfew period:

7,876 complaints were received during **2023**.

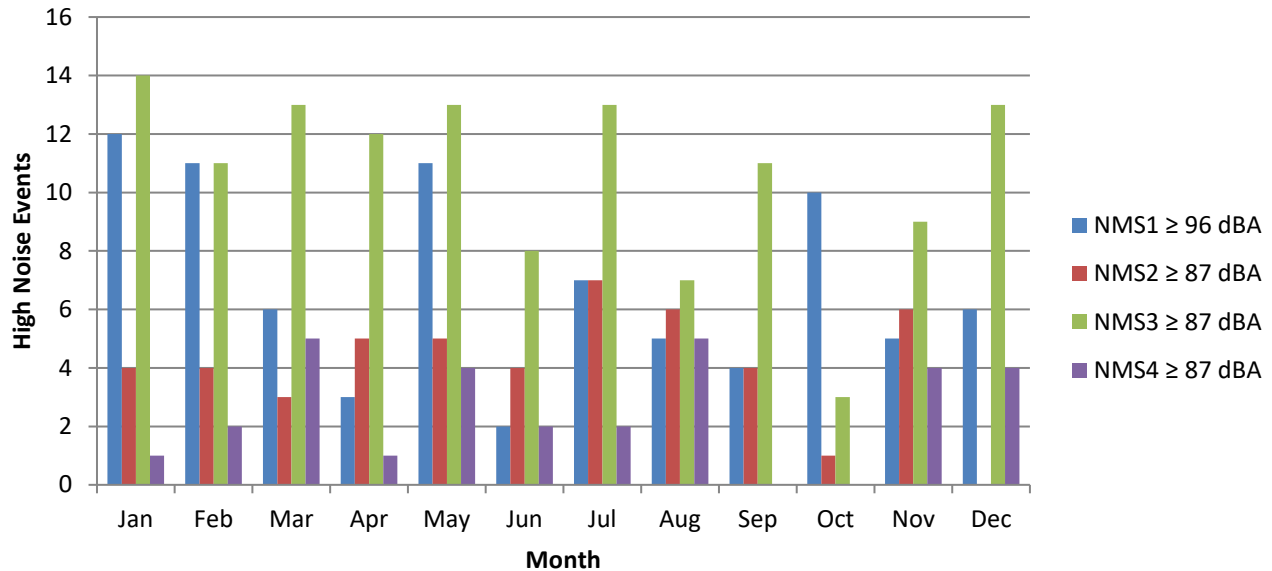
795 (17.1%) complaints were received for operations conducted during the voluntary curfew period (**including** those complaints that were found to be non-correlated or indirect).

A total of **2,176** advisory letters were sent to aircraft operators flying during the voluntary curfew period in **2023** who were not identified as Med-Evac and/or other emergency flights.

High Noise Event Threshold

The high noise event threshold was developed to work with pilots in methods and techniques that could reduce aircraft noise levels in and around PDK and its residential areas. Noise Monitoring Station (NMS) 1 is located in a commercial district and is set at **96 dBA Lmax** or greater. All other monitors, NMS2, 3, & 4 are located in residential areas and are set at **87 dBA Lmax** or greater. A Total of **288** noise events occurs in 2023; with this **282** advisory letters were sent out for aircraft identified as Exceeding PDK's high noise event threshold.

High Noise Events 2023



Comments/Concerns?

Please visit www.pdkairport.org for airport information. You may also contact the airport about noise concerns at pdknoise@dekalbcountyga.gov or call the noise hotline at (770) 936-5442.