

Skip to main content

LIVING



Airlines could start weighing passengers before boarding

By Ben Cost

May 18, 2021 | 3:03pm | Updated May 19, 2021 | 9:09am

TRENDING NOW ON
NYPOST.COM

1.

215,488

Matthew Perry stuns fans with slurred speech in 'Friends' reunion promo

2.

132,732

UPS driver goes viral sharing 'unreasonable' customer request

3.

132,315

Emotional Matthew Perry comforted by Jennifer Aniston in 'Friends' trailer

More On:
obesity

Teens from 'loving family'

In a measure that will likely irk flyers, airlines could soon require plus-sized passengers to step on the scale — or provide their weight — before boarding the aircraft.

LISTEN NOW



put in foster care for being overweight

90% of COVID deaths reported from countries with this in common

Weight's not everything: The health measures that matter with COVID

Humans are fatter than elephants, according to science

The initiative, **which was outlined in a recent Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) advisory**, strives to provide new data on average passenger weights as the current numbers reportedly don't reflect today's sky-high obesity rates in the US. In turn, this would help ensure aircrafts, especially the small ones, don't exceed their allowable weight limit, **View From the Wing** reported.

To put it plane-ly, the FAA wants to gauge how much *fatter* Americans have gotten, to prevent things from coming apart when planes take to the skies.

The new mandates, which were reviewed by airline industry publication AirInsight Group, would require airlines to take surveys to establish "standard average passenger weights" for crew members, baggage and passengers via random selection, **Fox reported**.

Airlines need to adjust "standard passenger weight" to reflect current obesity rates.

Shutterstock / Eviart

Once they've chosen a traveler, an operator may "determine the actual weight of passengers" by having them step "on a scale before boarding the aircraft," per the guidelines **transcribed by AirInsight**.

If that's not an option, they're urged to ask each passenger their weight, while making sure to add 10 pounds to account for clothing.

They even have a contingency plan for when operators suspect flyers are miscalculating their heft. In that case, crew members should "make a reasonable estimate about the passenger's actual weight and add 10 pounds," per the document.

Naturally, weighing people like luggage may seem a bit obtuse, which is why the FAA also provided guidelines on conducting the procedure in a way that protects passenger privacy.

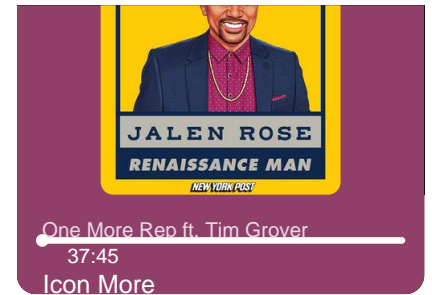
They stipulate that "the scale readout should remain hidden from public view" while "an operator should ensure that any passenger weight data collected remains confidential." Chalk one up for bedside manner.

Thankfully, travelers have the option of declining "to participate in any passenger or bag weight survey," per the guidelines.

"The FAA issued an **Advisory Circular** in May 2019 that stressed the importance that airline weight and balance programs accurately reflect

SEE ALSO

Airline to 'obese' cabin crew: Lose weight or you're fired



Listen on Apple Podcasts



NOW ON

Bette Midler announces 'Hocus Pocus 2' is coming — but you'll have to wait
Kylie Jenner and daughter Stormi, 3, twin in matching Versace bikinis
Palace despised Meghan Markle's 'trashy' baby shower, says royal expert

SEE ALL ▶

VIDEO

:30

Baby staring contest fail: 'He's so good!'

WHAT TO SHOP NOW








Apple TV 4K (2021) Review: Lightning Speed and An Upgraded

current passenger weights,” the FAA said in a statement to The Post. “Operators are evaluating their programs to comply with this guidance. While weighing customers at the gate is an option, most operators will likely rely on updated methods for estimating passenger weights.”

In order to update guidelines on “standard passenger weight,” airlines will have to up the weight of an average adult male passenger and carry-on bag to 190 pounds in the summer and 195 pounds in the winter — a 20-pound increase from the current guidelines, Fox reported. Meanwhile, female passengers and carry-on bags will increase from 145 pounds to 179 pounds in the summer, and 150 pounds to 184 pounds in the winter.

Filed under airlines , airplanes , flights , obesity , planes , 5/18/21

SHARE
THIS
ARTICLE:

-  Read Next
-  How the year 1996 — and Tiger and Venus — changed spor...
- 
- 
- 

More Stories

- page six**
- Matthew Perry stuns fans with slurred speech in 'Friends' reunion promo**
- nypost**
- UPS driver goes viral sharing 'unreasonable' customer request**

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- LinkedIn
- Email
- YouTube

- Email Newsletters
- Mobile Apps
- Contact Us
- Tips

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- LinkedIn
- Email
- YouTube

- Sections & Features
 - News
 - Metro
 - Sports

Remote Make This the Very Best Streaming Device for Apple Lovers

Celebrate National Rescue Dog Day: 40 essentials for new pet owners

The 14 best baby shower gifts of 2021

This new Sling TV promotion gets you first month access for just \$10

Celeb hairstylist Andrew Fitzsimons shares how to achieve viral 'Farrah Fawcett' look

- Business
- Opinion
- Entertainment
- Fashion
- NY Post Shopping
- Living
- Media
- Tech
- Real Estate
- Video
- Photos
- Alexa
- Covers
- Horoscopes
- Sports Odds
- Podcasts
- Columnists
- Classifieds
- Newsletters & Feeds
 - Email Newsletters
 - RSS Feeds
 - New York Post Store
 - Home Delivery
 - Subscribe
 - Manage Subscription
 - Delivery Help
- Help/Support
 - Customer Service
 - App FAQ & Help
 - Community Guidelines
 - Contact Us
 - Tips
 - Newsroom
 - Letters to the Editor
 - Reprints
 - Careers
- Apps
 - iPhone App
 - iPad App
 - Android Phone
 - Android Tablet
 - Advertise
 - Media Kit
 - Contact

© 2021 NYP Holdings, Inc. All Rights Reserved [Terms of Use](#) [Privacy Notice](#) [Your Ad Choices](#) [Sitemap](#) [Your California Privacy Rights](#)
[Do Not Sell My Personal Information](#)

[Your California Privacy Rights](#) [Do Not Sell My Personal Information](#)

 Powered by [WordPress.com](#) VIP