

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **May 8, 2017**



Southwest Airlines Co.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas	1-7259	74-1563240
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
P. O. Box 36611, Dallas, Texas		75235-1611
(Address of principal executive offices)		(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(214) 792-4000**

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- ☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR 230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR 240.12b-2).

Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On May 8, 2017, the Registrant issued a press release announcing its traffic results for April 2017. The press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference into this Item 7.01.

The information furnished in this Item 7.01 shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall such information be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, regardless of any general incorporation language in such filing, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits:

99.1 Registrant's April 2017 Traffic Release.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO.

May 8, 2017

By /s/ Tammy Romo

Tammy Romo
Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Exhibit Index

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Registrant's April 2017 Traffic Release.

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES REPORTS APRIL TRAFFIC

DALLAS, TEXAS – May 8, 2017 – Southwest Airlines Co. (NYSE: LUV) (the "Company") today reported its April and year-to-date preliminary traffic statistics.

The Company flew 11.2 billion revenue passenger miles (RPMs) in April 2017, an increase of 8.4 percent from the 10.4 billion RPMs flown in April 2016. Available seat miles (ASMs) increased 7.6 percent to 13.4 billion in April 2017, compared with April 2016 ASMs of 12.4 billion. The April 2017 load factor was a record for the month of April at 84.0 percent, compared with 83.4 percent in April 2016. Based on these results and current trends, the Company continues to expect its second quarter 2017 operating revenue per ASM (RASM) to increase in the one to two percent range, as compared with second quarter 2016.

This release, as well as past news releases about Southwest Airlines Co., is available online at **Southwest.com**.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Specific forward-looking statements include, without limitation, statements related to the Company's financial outlook and projected results of operations. These forward-looking statements are based on the Company's current intent, expectations, and projections and are not guarantees of future performance. These statements involve risks, uncertainties, assumptions, and other factors that are difficult to predict and that could cause actual results to vary materially from those expressed in or indicated by them. Factors include, among others, (i) changes in demand for the Company's services and other changes in consumer behavior; (ii) the impact of economic conditions, fuel prices, actions of competitors, and other factors beyond the Company's control, on the Company's business; (iii) the Company's ability to timely and effectively implement, transition, and maintain the necessary information technology systems and infrastructure to support its operations and initiatives; (iv) the impact of governmental regulations and other governmental actions related to the Company's operations; (v) the Company's dependence on third parties; (vi) the impact of labor matters on the Company's business; and (vii) other factors, as described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the detailed factors discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016.

Investor Contact:

Southwest Airlines Investor Relations
214-792-4415

Media Contact:

Southwest Airlines Media Relations
214-792-4847

www.southwestairlinesinvestorrelations.com

/more

Southwest Airlines Co.
Preliminary Comparative Traffic Statistics

APRIL			
	2017	2016	Change
Revenue passengers carried	11,094,102	10,340,882	7.3%
Enplaned passengers	13,460,665	12,606,212	6.8%
Revenue passenger miles (000s)	11,230,367	10,358,780	8.4%
Available seat miles (000s)	13,369,826	12,425,733	7.6%
Load factor	84.0%	83.4%	0.6 pts.
Average length of haul	1,012	1,002	1.0%
Trips flown	114,525	109,219	4.9%

YEAR-TO-DATE			
	2017	2016	Change
Revenue passengers carried	40,632,892	38,944,361	4.3%
Enplaned passengers	49,039,015	47,234,653	3.8%
Revenue passenger miles (000s)	40,571,025	38,766,944	4.7%
Available seat miles (000s)	50,069,696	47,693,882	5.0%
Load factor	81.0%	81.3%	(0.3) pts.
Average length of haul	998	995	0.3%
Trips flown	436,315	423,756	3.0%
