



Is air traffic growing out of control?

Air traffic controller shortage & holiday travel...



Dave Granlund / Courtesy of Cagle.com

1. How are these cartoons portraying the nationwide shortage of air traffic controllers?
2. Some controllers are forced to work 10-hour shifts six days a week, and there even have been reports of drinking on the job. Should air travel be limited until more controllers are trained and hired? Would that ever happen?
3. The Federal Aviation Administration has reported a 65% increase in "significant" air control lapses. Do you feel safe traveling by air? Why or why not?
4. Is it more dangerous to fly on an airliner or to drive to and from the airport?
5. Will you fly during the holidays?

Between the lines

"We have recently had a heart attack, multiple panic attacks (including my own), people losing their medicals due to depression and some that just outright quit the F.A.A. because it has gotten so bad.... This place is breaking people. We need help." - An air traffic controller in Jacksonville.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/12/02/business/air-traffic-controllers-safety.html>

Additional resources

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- [More by John Darkow](https://www.cagle.com/author/john-darkow/)
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