

Submission Header Summary

Element	Value
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Filer Information	
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Period Date	03-31-2022
Shell Company	false
Emerging Growth Company	false
Accelerated Filer Status	Large Accelerated Filer
Smaller Reporting Company	false
Notifications	
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Document Sequence

Count	Output File Name	Source File Name	Document Type	Description
1	skyw-20220331x10q.htm	skyw_Current folio_10Q	10-Q	10-Q
2	skyw-20220331xex31d1.htm	skyw_Ex31_1	EX-31.1	EX-31.1
3	skyw-20220331xex31d2.htm	skyw_Ex31_2	EX-31.2	EX-31.2
4	skyw-20220331xex32d1.htm	skyw_Ex32_1	EX-32.1	EX-32.1
5	skyw-20220331xex32d2.htm	skyw_Ex32_2	EX-32.2	EX-32.2
6	skyw-20220331.xsd		EX-101.SCH	EX-101.SCH
7	skyw-20220331_cal.xml		EX-101.CAL	EX-101.CAL
8	skyw-20220331_def.xml		EX-101.DEF	EX-101.DEF
9	skyw-20220331_lab.xml		EX-101.LAB	EX-101.LAB
10	skyw-20220331_pre.xml		EX-101.PRE	EX-101.PRE

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-Q

☒ QUARTERLY REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2022

OR

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 0-14719

SKYWEST, INC.

Incorporated under the laws of Utah

87-0292166

(I.R.S. Employer ID No.)

444 South River Road

St. George, Utah 84790

(435) 634-3000

(Address of principal executive offices and telephone number)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of Each Exchange on which Registered
Common Stock, No Par Value	SKYW	The Nasdaq Global Select Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act:

Large accelerated filer ☒

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐

Smaller reporting company ☐

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. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class	Outstanding at April 29, 2022
Common stock, no par value	50,521,792

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SKYWEST, INC.

QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

SKYWEST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars in Thousands)

ASSETS

	March 31, 2022 (unaudited)	December 31, 2021
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 246,001	\$ 258,421
Marketable securities	610,450	601,989
Receivables, net	68,039	65,348
Inventories, net	110,041	104,093
Other current assets	37,438	38,742
Total current assets	1,071,969	1,068,593
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT:		
Aircraft and rotatable spares	7,960,911	7,848,100
Deposits on aircraft	129,514	124,964
Buildings and ground equipment	263,999	256,595
Total property and equipment, gross	8,354,424	8,229,659
Less-accumulated depreciation and amortization	(2,825,603)	(2,731,060)
Total property and equipment, net	5,528,821	5,498,599
OTHER ASSETS:		
Operating lease right-of-use assets	223,856	238,516
Long-term receivables and other assets	324,312	320,239
Total other assets	548,168	558,755
Total assets	\$ 7,148,958	\$ 7,125,947

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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SKYWEST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Dollars in Thousands)

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

	March 31, 2022 (unaudited)	December 31, 2021
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 410,124	\$ 391,798
Accounts payable	412,757	496,333
Accrued salaries, wages and benefits	157,211	150,583
Current maturities of operating lease liabilities	78,930	78,886
Taxes other than income taxes	26,669	28,869
Other current liabilities	56,597	48,152
Total current liabilities	1,142,288	1,194,621
LONG-TERM DEBT, net of current maturities	2,791,274	2,717,420
DEFERRED INCOME TAXES PAYABLE	669,026	663,236
NONCURRENT OPERATING LEASE LIABILITIES	147,994	158,274
OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	108,661	124,882
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note 6)		
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:		
Preferred stock, 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued	—	—
Common stock, no par value, 120,000,000 shares authorized; 82,514,936 and 82,335,970 shares issued as of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, respectively	727,900	722,310
Retained earnings	2,181,650	2,163,916
Treasury stock, at cost, 31,993,144 and 31,956,047 shares as of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, respectively	(619,835)	(618,712)
Total stockholders' equity	2,289,715	2,267,514
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 7,148,958	\$ 7,125,947

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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SKYWEST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(UNAUDITED)

(Dollars and Shares in Thousands, Except per Share Amounts)

	Three months ended March 31,	
	2022	2021
OPERATING REVENUES:		
Flying agreements	\$ 708,063	\$ 511,191
Lease, airport services and other	27,089	23,364
Total operating revenues	735,152	534,555
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Salaries, wages and benefits	300,058	219,842
Aircraft maintenance, materials and repairs	148,413	203,827
Depreciation and amortization	102,745	109,597
Aircraft fuel	25,090	19,194
Airport-related expenses	19,205	24,448
Aircraft rentals	15,996	15,490
Payroll support grant	—	(193,173)
Other operating expenses	71,597	54,488
Total operating expenses	683,104	453,713
OPERATING INCOME	52,048	80,842
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE):		
Interest income	425	284
Interest expense	(28,592)	(31,354)
Other income, net	880	216
Total other expense, net	(27,287)	(30,854)
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	24,761	49,988
PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES	7,027	14,088
NET INCOME	\$ 17,734	\$ 35,900
BASIC EARNINGS PER SHARE	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.71
DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.71
Weighted average common shares:		
Basic	50,480	50,286
Diluted	50,708	50,727
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME:		
Net income	\$ 17,734	\$ 35,900
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	\$ 17,734	\$ 35,900

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements

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SKYWEST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY
(UNAUDITED)
(In Thousands)

	Common Stock		Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock		Total
	Shares	Amount		Shares	Amount	
Balance at December 31, 2021	82,336	\$ 722,310	\$ 2,163,916	(31,956)	\$ (618,712)	\$ 2,267,514
Net income	—	—	17,734	—	—	17,734
Exercise of common stock options and vested employee stock awards	139	27	—	—	—	27
Employee income tax paid on vested equity awards	—	—	—	(37)	(1,123)	(1,123)
Sale of common stock under employee stock purchase plan	40	1,487	—	—	—	1,487
Stock based compensation expense	—	4,076	—	—	—	4,076
Balance at March 31, 2022	<u>82,515</u>	<u>\$ 727,900</u>	<u>\$ 2,181,650</u>	<u>(31,993)</u>	<u>\$ (619,835)</u>	<u>\$ 2,289,715</u>

	Common Stock		Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock		Total
	Shares	Amount		Shares	Amount	
Balance at December 31, 2020	82,095	\$ 704,675	\$ 2,052,006	(31,914)	\$ (617,136)	\$ 2,139,545
Net income	—	—	35,900	—	—	35,900
Exercise of common stock options and vested employee stock awards	177	606	—	—	—	606
Employee income tax paid on vested equity awards	—	—	—	(42)	(1,573)	(1,573)
Sale of common stock under employee stock purchase plan	30	1,139	—	—	—	1,139
Stock based compensation expense	—	2,613	—	—	—	2,613
Warrants issued to U.S. Treasury	—	3,291	—	—	—	3,291
Balance at March 31, 2021	<u>82,302</u>	<u>\$ 712,324</u>	<u>\$ 2,087,906</u>	<u>(31,956)</u>	<u>\$ (618,709)</u>	<u>\$ 2,181,521</u>

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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SKYWEST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(UNAUDITED)
(In Thousands)

	Three months ended March 31,	
	2022	2021
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 20,508	\$ 231,593
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchases of marketable securities	(595,325)	(332,865)
Sales of marketable securities	586,864	337,612
Acquisition of property and equipment:		
Aircraft and rotatable spare parts	(111,782)	(51,904)
Buildings and ground equipment	(2,236)	(4,224)
Proceeds from the sale of property and equipment	2,749	2,150
Deposits on aircraft	(28,031)	(5,000)
Aircraft deposits applied towards acquired aircraft	23,481	—
Increase in other assets	(387)	(67,176)
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(124,667)	(121,407)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	185,740	39,931
Principal payments on long-term debt	(93,979)	(135,007)
Net proceeds from issuance of common stock	1,514	1,745
Employee income tax paid on vested equity awards	(1,123)	(1,573)
Payment of debt issuance cost	(413)	—
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES	91,739	(94,904)
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(12,420)	15,282
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	258,421	215,723
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD	\$ 246,001	\$ 231,005
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION:		
Non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Acquisition of property and equipment	\$ 13,567	\$ 1,380
Warrants issued to U.S. Treasury	\$ —	\$ 3,291
Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest, net of capitalized amounts	\$ 29,840	\$ 31,646
Income taxes	\$ 116	\$ 157

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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SKYWEST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

(1) Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Basis of Presentation

The condensed consolidated financial statements of SkyWest, Inc. ("SkyWest" or the "Company") and its operating subsidiary SkyWest Airlines, Inc. ("SkyWest Airlines") and its leasing subsidiary SkyWest Leasing, Inc. ("SkyWest Leasing") included herein have been prepared, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Certain information and disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations, although the Company believes that the following disclosures are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. These condensed consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments that, in the opinion of management, are necessary to present fairly the results of operations for the interim periods presented. All adjustments are of a normal recurring nature, unless otherwise disclosed. These condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021. Due in part to the uncertain rate of recovery from the global COVID-19 pandemic and workforce shortages, in addition to other factors, the results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2022, are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2022.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates and assumptions.

(2) Flying Agreements Revenue and Lease, Airport Services and Other Revenues

The Company recognizes flying agreements revenue and lease, airport services and other revenues when the service is provided under the applicable agreement. Under the Company's fixed-fee arrangements (referred to as "capacity purchase agreements") with United Airlines, Inc. ("United"), Delta Air Lines, Inc. ("Delta"), American Airlines, Inc. ("American") and Alaska Airlines, Inc. ("Alaska") (each, a "major airline partner"), the major airline partner generally pays the Company a fixed-fee for each departure, flight hour (measured from takeoff to landing, excluding taxi time) or block hour (measured from takeoff to landing, including taxi time) incurred, and an amount per aircraft in service each month with additional incentives based on flight completion and on-time performance. The major airline partner also directly pays for or reimburses the Company for certain direct expenses incurred under the capacity purchase agreement, such as fuel, airport landing fees and airport rents. Under the capacity purchase agreements, the Company's performance obligation is met when each flight is completed, measured in completed block hours, and is reflected in flying agreements revenue. The transaction price for the capacity purchase agreements is determined from the fixed-fee consideration, incentive consideration and directly reimbursed expenses earned as flights are completed over the agreement term. For the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, capacity purchase agreements represented approximately 88.8% and 86.6% of the Company's flying agreements revenue, respectively.

Under the Company's prorate arrangements (also referred to as a "prorate" or "revenue-sharing" agreement), the major airline partner and the Company negotiate a passenger fare proration formula, pursuant to which the Company receives a percentage of the ticket revenues for those passengers traveling for one portion of their trip on a Company airline and the other portion of their trip on the major airline partner. Under the Company's prorate flying agreements, the performance obligation is met, and revenue is recognized when each flight is completed based upon the portion of the prorate passenger fare the Company anticipates that it will receive for each completed flight. The transaction price for the prorate agreements is determined from the proration formula derived from each passenger ticket amount on each completed flight over the agreement term. For the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, prorate flying agreements represented approximately 11.2% and 13.4% of the Company's flying agreements revenue, respectively.

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The following table represents the Company's flying agreements revenue by type for the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021 (in thousands):

	For the three months ended March 31,	
	2022	2021
Capacity purchase agreements revenue: flight operations	\$ 348,474	\$ 211,052
Capacity purchase agreements revenue: aircraft lease and fixed revenue	280,419	231,491
Prorate agreements revenue	79,170	68,648
Flying agreements revenue	<u>\$ 708,063</u>	<u>\$ 511,191</u>

A portion of the Company's compensation under its capacity purchase agreements is designed to reimburse the Company for certain aircraft ownership costs. The consideration for aircraft ownership costs varies by agreement but is intended to cover either the Company's aircraft principal and interest debt service costs, its aircraft depreciation and interest expense or its aircraft lease expense costs while the aircraft is under contract. The consideration received for the use of the aircraft under the Company's capacity purchase agreements is reflected as lease revenue, inasmuch as the agreements identify the "right of use" of a specific type and number of aircraft over a stated period of time. The lease revenue associated with the Company's capacity purchase agreements is accounted for as an operating lease and is reflected as flying agreements revenue on the Company's consolidated statements of comprehensive income. The Company has not separately stated aircraft rental income and aircraft rental expense in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income since the use of the aircraft is not a separate activity of the total service provided.

Under the Company's capacity purchase agreements, the Company is paid a fixed amount per month per aircraft over the contract term. The Company recognizes revenue attributed to the fixed monthly payments proportionate to the number of block hours completed during each reporting period, relative to the estimated number of block hours the Company anticipates completing over the remaining contract term. Due to the lower number of block hours completed during the COVID-19 pandemic compared to historical levels, the amount of cash collected for the fixed amount per aircraft exceeded the revenue recognized based on block hours completed. Accordingly, the Company deferred recognizing revenue on fixed monthly cash payments the Company received under its capacity purchase agreements beginning in 2020. Based on the number of completed block hours during the three months ended March 31, 2022, the Company recognized \$7.5 million of previously deferred revenue and \$3.6 million of unbilled revenue, compared to deferring revenue of \$21.2 million during the three months ended March 31, 2021. The Company's deferred revenue balance was \$96.4 million as of March 31, 2022, including \$33.0 million in other current liabilities and \$63.4 million in other long-term liabilities. The Company's deferred revenue balance was \$103.9 million as of December 31, 2021, including \$24.5 million in other current liabilities and \$79.4 million in other long-term liabilities. The Company's unbilled revenue balance was \$12.0 million as of March 31, 2022, and \$8.4 million as of December 31, 2021, and was included in other long-term assets. The Company's deferred revenue and unbilled revenue balance will be recognized based on the number of block hours completed during each period relative to the estimated number of block hours the Company anticipates completing over the remaining contract term.

The Company's capacity purchase and prorate agreements include weekly provisional cash payments from the respective major airline partner based on a projected level of flying each month. The Company and each major airline partner subsequently reconcile these payments to the actual completed flight activity on a monthly or quarterly basis.

As of March 31, 2022, the Company had 513 aircraft in scheduled service or under contract under code-share agreements. The following table summarizes the significant provisions of each code-share agreement SkyWest Airlines has with each major airline partner:

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United Express Agreements

Agreement	Aircraft type	Number of Aircraft	Term / Termination Dates
United Express Agreements (Capacity purchase agreement)	• E175 • CRJ 700 • CRJ 200	90 19 70	• Individual aircraft have scheduled removal dates from 2024 to 2029
United Express Prorate Agreement (Prorate agreement)	• CRJ 200	41	• Terminable with 120-day notice
Total under United Express Agreements		220	

Delta Connection Agreements

Agreement	Aircraft type	Number of Aircraft	Term / Termination Dates
Delta Connection Agreement (Capacity purchase agreement)	• E175 • CRJ 900 • CRJ 700 • CRJ 200	71 44 5 9	• Individual aircraft have scheduled removal dates from 2022 to 2031
Delta Connection Prorate Agreement (Prorate agreement)	• CRJ 200	20	• Terminable with 30-day notice
Total under Delta Connection Agreements		149	

American Capacity Purchase Agreement

Agreement	Aircraft type	Number of Aircraft	Term / Termination Dates
American Agreement (Capacity purchase agreement)	• E175 • CRJ 700	18 90	• Individual aircraft have scheduled removal dates from 2024 to 2032
Total under American Agreements		108	

Alaska Capacity Purchase Agreement

Agreement	Aircraft type	Number of Aircraft	Term / Termination Dates
Alaska Agreement (Capacity purchase agreement)	• E175	36	• Individual aircraft have scheduled removal dates from 2030 to 2034

In addition to the contractual arrangements described above, as of March 31, 2022, SkyWest Airlines has a capacity purchase agreement with American to place two Embraer E175 dual-class regional jet aircraft ("E175") into service. The delivery dates for the two new E175 aircraft are currently scheduled for the third quarter of 2022. SkyWest Airlines also has an agreement with American to place 11 used Canadair CRJ700 regional jet aircraft ("CRJ700") under a multi-year capacity purchase agreement in 2023.

SkyWest Airlines has a capacity purchase agreement with Alaska to place an additional seven E175 aircraft into service. The delivery dates for the seven new E175 aircraft are currently scheduled for 2022 and the first half of 2023.

SkyWest Airlines has a capacity purchase agreement with Delta to place 16 E175 aircraft into service. The delivery dates for the 16 new E175 aircraft are currently scheduled for 2022.

Final delivery and in-service dates for aircraft to be placed under contract may be adjusted based on various factors.

When an aircraft is scheduled to be removed from a capacity purchase arrangement, the Company may, as practical under the circumstances, negotiate an extension with the respective major airline partner, negotiate the placement of the aircraft with another major airline partner, return the aircraft to the lessor if the aircraft is leased and the lease is expiring, place owned aircraft for sale, or pursue other uses for the aircraft. Other uses for the aircraft may include placing the aircraft in a prorate agreement, leasing the aircraft to a third party or parting out the aircraft to use the engines and parts as spare inventory or to lease the engines to a third party.

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Lease, airport services and other revenues primarily consists of revenue generated from aircraft and spare engines leased to third parties and airport customer services, such as gate and ramp agent services at applicable airports where the Company has agreements with third parties. The following table represents the Company's lease, airport services and other revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021 (in thousands):

	For the three months ended March 31,	
	2022	2021
Operating lease revenue	\$ 16,555	\$ 14,950
Airport customer service and other revenue	10,534	8,414
Lease, airport services and other	<u>\$ 27,089</u>	<u>\$ 23,364</u>

The following table summarizes future minimum rental income under operating leases primarily related to leased aircraft and engines that had remaining non-cancelable lease terms as of March 31, 2022 (in thousands):

April 2022 through December 2022	\$ 34,054
2023	44,677
2024	42,593
2025	39,145
2026	34,516
Thereafter	120,636
	<u>\$ 315,621</u>

Of the Company's \$5.5 billion of property and equipment, net as of March 31, 2022, \$246.9 million of regional jet aircraft and spare engines was leased to third parties under operating leases. The Company mitigates the residual asset risks of these assets by leasing aircraft and engine types that can be operated by the Company in the event of a default. Additionally, the operating leases typically have specified lease return condition requirements paid by the lessee to the Company and the Company typically maintains inspection rights under the leases.

The transaction price for airport customer service agreements is determined from an agreed-upon rate by location applied to the applicable number of flights handled by the Company over the agreement term.

The Company's operating revenues could be impacted by several factors, including changes to the Company's code-share agreements with its major airline partners, changes in flight schedules, contract modifications resulting from contract renegotiations, the Company's ability to earn incentive payments contemplated under the Company's code-share agreements and settlement of reimbursement disputes with the Company's major airline partners.

Other ancillary revenues commonly associated with airlines, such as baggage fee revenue, ticket change fee revenue and the marketing component of the sale of mileage credits, are retained by the Company's major airline partners on flights that the Company operates under its code-share agreements.

Allowance for credit losses

The Company monitors publicly available credit ratings for entities for which the Company has a significant receivable balance. As of March 31, 2022, the Company had gross receivables of \$89.4 million in current assets and gross receivables of \$232.1 million in other long-term assets. The Company has established credit loss reserves based on publicly available historic default rates issued by a third party for companies with similar credit ratings, factoring in the term of the respective accounts receivable or notes receivable. During the three months ended March 31, 2022, there were no significant changes in the outstanding accounts receivable or notes receivable or the credit ratings of the entities. The Company's credit loss reserve was \$42.1 million at March 31, 2022, compared to \$42.0 million at December 31, 2021. The \$0.1 million increase in the credit loss reserve for the three months ended March 31, 2022, was reflected as an increase to the credit loss expense.

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(3) Share-Based Compensation

During the three months ended March 31, 2022, the Company granted 66,680 restricted stock units and 221,942 performance shares to certain employees of the Company under the SkyWest, Inc. 2019 Long-Term Incentive Plan. Both the restricted stock units and performance shares have a three-year vesting period, during which the recipient must remain employed with the Company. The number of performance shares awardable from the 2022 grants can range from 0% to 250% of the original amount granted depending on the Company's performance over three one-year measurement periods against the pre-established targets. Upon vesting, each restricted stock unit and performance share will be replaced with one share of common stock. The fair value of these restricted stock units and performance shares on their date of grant was \$32.86 per share. During the three months ended March 31, 2022, the Company did not grant any options to purchase shares of common stock to employees. Additionally, during the three months ended March 31, 2022, the Company granted 24,423 fully vested shares of common stock to the Company's directors at a grant date fair value of \$32.86.

The Company accounts for forfeitures of restricted stock units and performance shares when forfeitures occur. The estimated fair value of the restricted stock units and performance shares is amortized over the applicable vesting periods. Share-based compensation expense for the performance shares is based on the Company's anticipated outcome of achieving the performance metrics. During the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company recorded pre-tax share-based compensation expense of \$4.1 million and \$2.6 million, respectively.

(4) Net Income Per Common Share

Basic net income per common share ("Basic EPS") excludes dilution and is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per common share ("Diluted EPS") reflects the potential dilution that could occur if stock options or other contracts to issue common stock were exercised or converted into common stock. The computation of Diluted EPS does not assume exercise or conversion of securities that would have an anti-dilutive effect on net income per common share. During the three months ended March 31, 2022, 361,000 performance shares (at target performance) were excluded from the computation of Diluted EPS since the Company had not achieved the minimum target thresholds as of March 31, 2022. During the three months ended March 31, 2021, 295,000 performance shares (at target performance) were excluded from the computation of Diluted EPS since the Company had not achieved the minimum target thresholds as of March 31, 2021. During the three months ended March 31, 2022, warrants to purchase 125,000 and 78,000 shares of common stock at \$40.41 and \$57.47 per share, respectively, were excluded from the computation of Diluted EPS since the warrants' exercise prices were greater than the average market price of the common shares during the quarter ended March 31, 2022.

The calculation of the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding for Basic EPS and Diluted EPS for the periods indicated (in thousands, except per share data) is as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2022	2021
Numerator:		
Net income	\$ 17,734	\$ 35,900
Denominator:		
Basic earnings per share weighted average shares	50,480	50,286
Dilution due to stock options and restricted stock units	228	441
Diluted earnings per share weighted average shares	50,708	50,727
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.71
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.71

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(5) Segment Reporting

The Company's two reporting segments consist of the operations of SkyWest Airlines and SkyWest Leasing activities.

The Company's chief operating decision maker analyzes the profitability of operating new aircraft financed through the issuance of debt, including the Company's E175 fleet, separately from the profitability of the Company's capital deployed for ownership and financing of such aircraft. The SkyWest Airlines segment includes revenue earned under the applicable capacity purchase agreements attributed to operating such aircraft and the respective operating costs. The SkyWest Leasing segment includes applicable revenue earned under the applicable capacity purchase agreements attributed to the ownership of new aircraft acquired through the issuance of debt and the respective depreciation and interest expense of such aircraft. The SkyWest Leasing segment also includes the activity of leasing regional jet aircraft and spare engines to third parties. The SkyWest Leasing segment's total assets and capital expenditures include new aircraft acquired through the issuance of debt and assets leased to third parties.

The following represents the Company's segment data for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2022 and 2021 (in thousands):

	Three months ended March 31, 2022		
	SkyWest Airlines	SkyWest Leasing	Consolidated
Operating revenues (1)	\$ 603,048	\$ 132,104	\$ 735,152
Operating expense	621,028	62,076	683,104
Depreciation and amortization expense	47,694	55,051	102,745
Interest expense	1,789	26,803	28,592
Segment profit (loss) (2)	(19,769)	43,225	23,456
Total assets (as of March 31, 2022)	2,953,902	4,195,056	7,148,958
Capital expenditures (including non-cash)	32,696	94,889	127,585

	Three months ended March 31, 2021		
	SkyWest Airlines	SkyWest Leasing	Consolidated
Operating revenues (1)	\$ 406,450	\$ 128,105	\$ 534,555
Operating expense	387,870	65,843	453,713
Depreciation and amortization expense	50,326	59,271	109,597
Interest expense	3,129	28,225	31,354
Segment profit (2)	15,451	34,037	49,488
Total assets (as of March 31, 2021)	2,924,598	3,970,087	6,894,685
Capital expenditures (including non-cash)	35,206	22,302	57,508

- (1) Prorate revenue and airport customer service revenue are primarily reflected in the SkyWest Airlines segment.
 (2) Segment profit (loss) is equal to operating income less interest expense.

(6) — Leases, Commitments and Contingencies

The Company leases property and equipment under operating leases. For leases with durations longer than 12 months, the Company recorded the related operating lease right-of-use asset and operating lease liability at the present value of lease payments over the term. The Company used its incremental borrowing rate to discount the lease payments based on information available at lease commencement.

Aircraft

As of March 31, 2022, excluding aircraft financed by the Company's major airline partners that the Company operates for them under contract, the Company had 43 aircraft under long-term lease agreements with remaining terms ranging from two years to eight years.

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Airport facilities

The Company has operating leases for facility space including airport terminals, office space, cargo warehouses and maintenance facilities. The Company generally leases this space from government agencies that control the use of the various airports. The remaining lease terms for facility space vary from one month to 34 years. The Company's operating leases with lease rates that are variable based on airport operating costs, use of the facilities or other variable factors are excluded from the Company's right-of-use assets and operating lease liabilities in accordance with accounting guidance.

Leases

As of March 31, 2022, the Company's right-of-use assets were \$223.9 million, the Company's current maturities of operating lease liabilities were \$78.9 million, and the Company's noncurrent lease liabilities were \$148.0 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2022, the Company paid \$14.7 million in operating leases reflected as a reduction from operating cash flows.

The table below presents lease related terms and discount rates as of March 31, 2022.

	As of March 31, 2022
Weighted-average remaining lease term for operating leases	6.2 years
Weighted-average discount rate for operating leases	6.0%

The Company's lease costs for the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021 included the following components (in thousands):

	For the three months ended March 31,	
	2022	2021
Operating lease cost	\$ 21,841	\$ 22,127
Variable and short-term lease cost	1,018	1,224
Sublease income	(1,803)	(1,335)
Total lease cost	\$ 21,056	\$ 22,016

As of March 31, 2022, the Company leased aircraft, airport facilities, office space, and other property and equipment under non-cancelable operating leases, which are generally on a long-term, triple-net lease basis pursuant to which the Company pays taxes, maintenance, insurance and certain other operating expenses applicable to the leased property. The Company expects that, in the normal course of business, such operating leases that expire may be renewed or replaced by other leases, or the property may be purchased rather than leased. The following table summarizes future minimum rental payments primarily related to leased aircraft required under operating leases that had initial or remaining non-cancelable lease terms as of March 31, 2022 (in thousands):

April 2022 through December 2022	\$ 66,742
2023	76,049
2024	32,144
2025	17,568
2026	15,491
Thereafter	72,827
	<u>\$ 280,821</u>

As of March 31, 2022, the Company had a firm purchase commitment for 25 E175 aircraft from Embraer, S.A. ("Embraer") with anticipated delivery dates through the first half of 2023.

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The following table summarizes the Company's commitments and obligations as noted for each of the next five years and thereafter (in thousands):

	Total	Apr - Dec 2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Thereafter
Operating lease payments for aircraft and facility obligations	\$ 280,821	\$ 66,742	\$ 76,049	\$ 32,144	\$ 17,568	\$ 15,491	\$ 72,827
Firm aircraft and spare engine commitments	679,789	653,270	26,519	—	—	—	—
Interest commitments (1)	485,584	87,784	103,072	86,121	68,249	51,641	88,717
Principal maturities on long-term debt	3,232,430	315,901	422,380	418,088	485,348	429,621	1,161,092
Total commitments and obligations	\$ 4,678,624	\$ 1,123,697	\$ 628,020	\$ 536,353	\$ 571,165	\$ 496,753	\$ 1,322,636

(1) At March 31, 2022, the Company's long-term debt had fixed interest rates.

(7) — Fair Value Measurements

The Company holds certain assets that are required to be measured at fair value in accordance with GAAP. The Company determined the fair value of these assets based on the following three levels of inputs:

- Level 1* — Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2* — Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities. Some of the Company's marketable securities primarily utilize broker quotes in a non-active market for valuation of these securities.
- Level 3* — Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions.

As of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, the Company held certain assets that are required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis are summarized below (in thousands):

	Fair Value Measurements as of March 31, 2022			
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Marketable Securities				
Bonds and bond funds	\$ 170,918	\$ —	\$ 170,918	\$ —
Commercial paper	439,532	—	439,532	—
	\$ 610,450	\$ —	\$ 610,450	\$ —
Cash and Cash Equivalents	246,001	246,001	—	—
Total Assets Measured at Fair Value	\$ 856,451	\$ 246,001	\$ 610,450	\$ —

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	Fair Value Measurements as of December 31, 2021			
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Marketable Securities				
Bonds and bond funds	\$ 54,673	\$ —	\$ 54,673	\$ —
Commercial paper	547,316	—	547,316	—
	\$ 601,989	\$ —	\$ 601,989	\$ —
Cash and Cash Equivalents	258,421	258,421	—	—
Total Assets Measured at Fair Value	\$ 860,410	\$ 258,421	\$ 601,989	\$ —

The Company's "marketable securities" classified as Level 2 securities primarily utilize broker quotes in a non-active market for valuation of these securities.

The Company did not make any significant transfers of securities between Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 during the three months ended March 31, 2022. The Company's policy regarding the recording of transfers between levels is to record any such transfers at the end of the reporting period.

As of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, the Company classified \$610.5 million and \$602.0 million of marketable securities, respectively, as short-term since it had the intent to maintain a liquid portfolio and the ability to redeem the securities within one year. As of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, the cost of the Company's total cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities was \$856.4 million and \$860.4 million, respectively.

The fair value of the Company's long-term debt classified as Level 2 debt was estimated using discounted cash flow analyses, based on the Company's current estimated incremental borrowing rates for similar types of borrowing arrangements. The fair value of the Company's long-term debt is estimated based on current rates offered to the Company for similar debt and was estimated to be \$3.2 billion as of March 31, 2022, and \$3.2 billion as of December 31, 2021, as compared to the carrying amount of \$3.2 billion as of March 31, 2022, and \$3.1 billion as of December 31, 2021.

(8) Long-term Debt

Long-term debt consisted of the following as of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021 (in thousands):

	March 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 413,703	\$ 395,371
Current portion of unamortized debt issue cost, net	(3,579)	(3,573)
Current portion of long-term debt, net of debt issue costs	\$ 410,124	\$ 391,798
Long-term debt, net of current maturities	\$ 2,818,727	\$ 2,745,567
Long-term portion of unamortized debt issue cost, net	(27,453)	(28,147)
Long-term debt, net of current maturities and debt issue costs	\$ 2,791,274	\$ 2,717,420
Total long-term debt (including current portion)	\$ 3,232,430	\$ 3,140,938
Total unamortized debt issue cost, net	(31,032)	(31,720)
Total long-term debt, net of debt issue costs	\$ 3,201,398	\$ 3,109,218

During the three months ended March 31, 2022, the Company took delivery of four new E175 aircraft that the Company financed through \$82.8 million of long-term debt. The debt associated with the E175 aircraft has 5-year to 10-year terms, is due in monthly installments, and is secured by the E175 aircraft.

During the three months ended March 31, 2022, the Company executed a promissory note for \$102.9 million. The promissory note has a three-year term, is due in monthly installments with a fixed annual interest rate of 3.6% and is secured by spare engines.

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As of both March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, the Company had \$61.4 million in letters of credit and surety bonds outstanding with various banks and surety institutions.

As of March 31, 2022, SkyWest Airlines had a \$100 million line of credit with an expiration date of March 25, 2025. The line of credit includes minimum liquidity and profitability covenants and is secured by certain assets. As of March 31, 2022, SkyWest Airlines had no amount outstanding under the facility. However, at March 31, 2022, SkyWest Airlines had \$31.4 million in letters of credit issued under the facility, which reduced the amount available under the facility to \$68.6 million.

(9) — Investment in Other Companies

During 2019, the Company created a joint venture with Regional One, Inc. (“Regional One”) by investing \$22.3 million for a 75% ownership interest in Aero Engines, LLC. (“Aero Engines”). The Company invested an additional \$1.0 million into Aero Engines in 2020 and \$3.3 million during the first quarter of 2022 and retained a 75% ownership interest. The primary purpose of Aero Engines is to lease engines to third parties. Aero Engines requires unanimous approval from the Company and Regional One for its engine purchases, dispositions, lease agreements with third parties and all other material transactions. The Company determined Aero Engines is a variable interest entity as the Company has a 75% ownership interest in Aero Engines and all material decisions require unanimous approval from the Company and Regional One, resulting in disproportionate ownership rights relative to voting rights. As unanimous approval is required for all Aero Engines’ material activities, Aero Engines has no primary beneficiary. The Company accounts for its investment in Aero Engines under the equity method. The Company’s exposure in its investment in Aero Engines primarily consists of the Company’s portion of income or loss from Aero Engines’ engine lease agreements with third parties and the Company’s ownership percentage in Aero Engines’ engines book value. Aero Engines had no debt outstanding as of March 31, 2022. As of March 31, 2022, the Company’s investment balance in Aero Engines was \$23.9 million. The Company’s investment in Aero Engines has been recorded in “Other Assets” on the Company’s consolidated balance sheet. The Company’s portion of earnings generated by Aero Engines for the three months ended March 31, 2022, was \$0.4 million, which is recorded in “Other Income (Expense)” on the Company’s consolidated statements of comprehensive income.

In 2021, the Company entered into a strategic partnership with Eve UAM, LLC (“Eve”), to develop a network of deployment for Eve’s electric vertical takeoff and landing (“eVTOL”) aircraft. The Company signed a non-binding letter of intent to purchase 100 eVTOL aircraft. As part of the partnership, the Company anticipates it will acquire an equity interest in Eve in May 2022, upon completion of certain events by Eve.

(10) Income Taxes

The Company’s effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2022 was 28.4%. The Company’s effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2022 varied from the federal statutory rate of 21.0% primarily due to the provision for state income taxes, the impact of non-deductible expenses, and a discrete tax expense on employee equity transactions that occurred during the three months ended March 31, 2022.

The Company’s effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2021 was 28.2%. The Company’s effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2021 varied from the federal statutory rate of 21.0% primarily due to the provision for state income taxes and the impact of non-deductible expenses.

(11) Legal Matters

The Company is subject to certain legal actions which it considers routine to its business activities. As of March 31, 2022, the Company’s management believed, after consultation with legal counsel, that the ultimate outcome of such legal matters was not likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company’s financial position, liquidity, or results of operations.

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ITEM 2: MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion and analysis presents factors that had a material effect on the results of operations of SkyWest, Inc. ("SkyWest" "we" or "us") during the three-month periods ended March 31, 2022 and 2021. Also discussed is our financial condition as of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021. You should read this discussion in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2022, including the notes thereto, appearing elsewhere in this Report. This discussion and analysis contains forward-looking statements. Please refer to the section of this Report entitled "Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements" for discussion of uncertainties, risks and assumptions associated with these statements.

Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

Certain of the statements contained in this Report should be considered "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements may be identified by words such as "may," "will," "expect," "intend," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "plan," "project," "could," "should," "hope," "likely," and "continue" and similar terms used in connection with statements regarding our outlook, anticipated operations, the revenue environment, our contractual relationships, and our anticipated financial performance. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our business, results of operations and financial condition and the impact of any measures, including travel restrictions, taken to mitigate the effect of the pandemic, our future growth and development plans, including our future financial and operating results, our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions and other statements that are not historical facts. Readers should keep in mind that all forward-looking statements are based on our existing beliefs about present and future events outside of our control and on assumptions that may prove to be incorrect. If one or more risks identified in this Report materializes, or any other underlying assumption proves incorrect, our actual results will vary, and may vary materially, from those anticipated, estimated, projected, or intended for a number of reasons, including but not limited to: the uncertainty of the duration, scope and impact of COVID-19; a further spread or worsening of COVID-19 or other potential future outbreaks of infectious diseases or other health concerns; the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic to global economic conditions, the travel industry and our major airline partners in general and our financial condition and results of operations in particular; the challenges of competing successfully in a highly competitive and rapidly changing industry; developments associated with fluctuations in the economy and the demand for air travel, including as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; the financial stability of United Airlines, Inc. ("United"), Delta Air Lines, Inc. ("Delta"), American Airlines, Inc. ("American") and Alaska Airlines, Inc. ("Alaska") (each, a "major airline partner") and any potential impact of their financial condition on our operations; fluctuations in flight schedules, which are determined by the major airline partners for whom SkyWest conducts flight operations; variations in market and economic conditions; significant aircraft lease and debt commitments; realization of manufacturer residual value guarantees on applicable SkyWest aircraft; residual aircraft values and related impairment charges; the impact of global instability, including the ongoing military conflict between Russia and the Ukraine; labor relations and costs; potential fluctuations in fuel costs and potential fuel shortages; the impact of weather-related or other natural disasters on air travel and airline costs; new aircraft deliveries; and the ability to attract and retain qualified pilots, as well as the other factors identified under the heading "Risk Factors" in Part I, Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, under the heading "Risk Factors" in Part II, Item 1A of this Report, elsewhere in this Report, in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and other unanticipated factors.

There may be other factors that may affect matters discussed in forward-looking statements set forth in this Report, which factors may also cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed. Additionally, the risks, uncertainties and other factors set forth above or otherwise referred to in the reports that we have filed with the SEC may be further amplified by the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We assume no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement to reflect actual results, changes in assumptions or changes in other factors affecting these statements other than as required by applicable law.

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Overview

We have the largest regional airline operation in the United States through our operating subsidiary SkyWest Airlines, Inc. (“SkyWest Airlines”). As of March 31, 2022, we offered scheduled passenger service with approximately 1,960 total daily departures to destinations in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Our fleet of Embraer E175 regional jet aircraft (“E175”), Canadair CRJ900 regional jet aircraft (“CRJ900”) and Canadair CRJ700 regional jet aircraft (“CRJ700”) have a multiple-class seat configuration, whereas our CRJ200 aircraft have a single-class seat configuration. As of March 31, 2022, we had 633 total aircraft in our fleet, including 513 aircraft in scheduled service or under contract under our code-share agreements, summarized as follows:

	E175	CRJ900	CRJ700	CRJ200	Total
United	90	—	19	111	220
Delta	71	44	5	29	149
American	18	—	90	—	108
Alaska	36	—	—	—	36
Aircraft in scheduled service or under contract	215	44	114	140	513
Leased to third parties	—	5	34	—	39
Other*	—	—	19	62	81
Total Fleet	215	49	167	202	633

* As of March 31, 2022, other aircraft included: supplemental spare aircraft supporting our code-share agreements which may be used in future code-share or leasing arrangements, aircraft transitioning between code-share agreements with our major airline partners, or aircraft that are scheduled to be disassembled for use as spare parts.

Our business model is based on providing scheduled regional airline service under code-share agreements (commercial agreements, typically in the form of capacity purchase agreements or prorate agreements, between airlines that, among other things, allow one airline to use another airline’s flight designator codes on its flights) with our major airline partners. Our success is principally dependent on our ability to meet the needs of our major airline partners by providing a reliable and safe operation at attractive economics. From March 31, 2021, to March 31, 2022, we made several changes to our fleet count under our flying agreements, primarily consisting of the addition of 22 new E175 aircraft and 16 used CRJ700 aircraft.

We anticipate our fleet will continue to evolve, as we are scheduled to add two new E175 aircraft with American in the third quarter of 2022, seven new E175 aircraft with Alaska by the first half of 2023 and 16 new E175 aircraft with Delta by the end of 2022. We also anticipate adding 11 used CRJ700 aircraft with American by the end of 2023. Anticipated delivery and in-service dates may be subject to change as we are coordinating timing with our major airline partners. Our primary objective in the fleet changes is to improve our profitability by adding new E175 aircraft and used CRJ aircraft to capacity purchase agreements, and potentially removing older aircraft from service that typically require higher maintenance costs.

As of March 31, 2022, approximately 42.9% of our aircraft in scheduled service or under contract were operated for United, approximately 29.0% were operated for Delta, approximately 21.1% were operated for American and approximately 7.0% were operated for Alaska.

Historically, multiple contractual relationships with major airlines have enabled us to reduce our reliance on any single major airline code and to enhance and stabilize operating results through a mix of fixed-fee arrangements (referred to as “capacity purchase agreements”) and revenue-sharing arrangements (referred to as “prorate” agreements). For the three months ended March 31, 2022, capacity purchase revenue and prorate revenue represented approximately 88.8% and 11.2%, respectively, of our total flying agreements revenue. On contract routes, the major airline partner controls scheduling, ticketing, pricing and seat inventories and we are compensated by the major airline partner at contracted rates based on completed block hours (measured from takeoff to landing, including taxi time), flight departures, the number of aircraft under contract and other operating measures. On prorate routes, we have more control over scheduling, pricing and seat inventories, and we share passenger fares with our major airline partners according to prorate formulas. Our prorate revenue and profitability may fluctuate based on ticket prices and passenger loads, and we are responsible for the operating costs of the prorate flights, including fuel and airport costs.

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First Quarter Summary

We had total operating revenues of \$735.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, a 37.5% increase compared to total operating revenues of \$534.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021. We had net income of \$17.7 million, or \$0.35 per diluted share, for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to net income of \$35.9 million, or \$0.71 per diluted share, for the three months ended March 31, 2021. The significant items affecting our revenue and operating expenses during the three months ended March 31, 2022, are outlined below:

Revenue

The number of aircraft we have in scheduled service and the number of block hours we incur on our flights are primary drivers of our flying agreements revenue under our capacity purchase agreements. The number of flights we operate and the corresponding number of passengers we carry are the primary drivers of our revenue under our prorate flying agreements. As a result of higher passenger demand, the number of aircraft we operated increased from 468 as of March 31, 2021, to 513 as of March 31, 2022; the number of block hours increased from 276,182 for the three months ended March 31, 2021, to 310,993 for the three months ended March 31, 2022, or by 12.6%; and the number of passengers we carried increased from 5.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021, to 8.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, or by 53.9%.

As a result of increased flight schedules and additional aircraft operating under our capacity purchase agreements for the three months ended March 31, 2022, as compared to three months ended March 31, 2021, our capacity purchase revenue increased \$186.4 million, or 42.1%. Additionally, we provided temporary rate reductions to our major airline partners under our capacity purchase agreements during the three months ended March 31, 2021, in response to the COVID-19 demand reduction experienced by our major airline partners in 2021. We did not provide our major airline partners temporary rate reductions during the three months ended March 31, 2022. As a result of increased passengers carried on our prorate routes, our prorate revenue increased \$10.5 million, or 15.3%, for the three months ended March 31, 2022, as compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021.

Operating Expenses

Our total operating expenses increased \$229.4 million, or 50.6%, for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021. The increase in operating expenses was primarily due to \$193.2 million in payroll support program grants received from U.S. Treasury reflected as an offset to operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2021, and an increase in the number of flights we operated for the three months ended March 31, 2022, as compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021. Departures increased from 154,894 for the three months ended March 31, 2021, to 176,211 for the three months ended March 31, 2022, or by 13.8%. Additional details regarding the increase in our operating expenses are described in the section of this Report entitled "Results of Operations."

Fleet Activity

The following table summarizes our fleet scheduled for service or under contract as of:

Aircraft in Service or Under Contract	March 31, 2022	December 31, 2021	March 31, 2021
E175s	215	211	193
CRJ900s	44	44	40
CRJ700s	114	114	98
CRJ200s	140	140	137
Total	513	509	468

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our significant accounting policies are summarized in Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021 and Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," which are presented in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021. Critical accounting policies are those policies that are most important to the preparation of our consolidated financial statements

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and require management's subjective and complex judgments due to the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain. Our critical accounting policies relate to revenue recognition, long-lived assets, and income tax. The application of these accounting policies involves the exercise of judgment and the use of assumptions as to future uncertainties and, as a result, actual results will likely differ, and may differ materially, from such estimates. There have been no significant changes in our critical accounting estimates during the three months ended March 31, 2022.

Results of Operations

Three Months Ended March 31, 2022 and 2021

Operational Statistics

The following table sets forth our major operational statistics and the associated percentage changes for the periods identified below. The increase in block hours, departures and passengers carried during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, was primarily due to demand recovery from reduced flight schedules in 2021 resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Block hours by aircraft type:	For the three months ended March 31,		
	2022	2021	% Change
E175s	146,177	128,498	13.8 %
CRJ900s	25,855	24,006	7.7 %
CRJ700s	67,878	63,095	7.6 %
CRJ200s	71,083	60,583	17.3 %
Total block hours	310,993	276,182	12.6 %
Departures	176,211	154,894	13.8 %
Passengers carried	8,787,367	5,708,589	53.9 %
Passenger load factor	77.6 %	56.7 %	20.9 pts
Average passenger trip length (miles)	515	540	(4.6)%

Operating Revenues

The following table summarizes our operating revenue for the periods indicated (dollar amounts in thousands):

	For the three months ended March 31,			
	2022	2021	\$ Change	% Change
Flying agreements	\$ 708,063	\$ 511,191	\$ 196,872	38.5 %
Lease, airport services and other	27,089	23,364	3,725	15.9 %
Total operating revenues	\$ 735,152	\$ 534,555	\$ 200,597	37.5 %

Flying agreements revenue primarily consists of revenue earned on flights we operate under our capacity purchase agreements and prorate agreements with our major airline partners. Lease, airport services and other revenues consist of revenue earned from leasing aircraft and spare engines to third parties separate from our capacity purchase agreements and providing airport counter, gate and ramp services.

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We disaggregate our flying agreements revenue into the following categories (dollar amounts in thousands):

	For the three months ended March 31,			
	2022	2021	\$ Change	% Change
Capacity purchase agreements revenue: flight operations	\$ 348,474	\$ 211,052	\$ 137,422	65.1 %
Capacity purchase agreements revenue: aircraft lease and fixed revenue	280,419	231,491	48,928	21.1 %
Prorate agreements revenue	79,170	68,648	10,522	15.3 %
Flying agreements revenue	<u>\$ 708,063</u>	<u>\$ 511,191</u>	<u>\$ 196,872</u>	<u>38.5 %</u>

The increase in “Capacity purchase agreements revenue: flight operations” of \$137.4 million was primarily due to an increase in scheduled flights we operated under our contracts with our major airline partners during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021. Our completed departures increased 13.8% and completed block hours increased 12.6% during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021. Additionally, we provided temporary rate reductions to our major airline partners under our capacity purchase agreements during the three months ended March 31, 2021, in response to the COVID-19 demand reduction experienced by our major airline partners in 2021. We did not provide our major airline partners temporary rate reductions during the three months ended March 31, 2022.

The increase in “Capacity purchase agreements revenue: aircraft lease and fixed revenue” of \$48.9 million was primarily due to recognizing previously deferred revenue and unbilled revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021. Under our capacity purchase agreements, we are paid a fixed amount per month per aircraft over the contract term. We recognize the fixed amount per aircraft as revenue proportionately to the number of block hours we complete for each reporting period. Under our capacity purchase agreements, the performance obligation of each completed flight is measured in block hours incurred for each completed flight. Based on the number of completed block hours during the three months ended March 31, 2022, we recognized \$7.5 million of previously deferred revenue and \$3.6 million of unbilled revenue on our capacity purchase agreements. For the three months ended March 31, 2021, we deferred recognizing revenue on \$21.2 million of fixed monthly cash payments we received under our capacity purchase agreements. Our deferred revenue and unbilled revenue related to the fixed payments will adjust over the remaining contract term for each capacity purchase agreement based on the number of block hours we complete each reporting period relative to the number of block hours we anticipate completing over the remaining contract term of each capacity purchase agreement. The deferred revenue balance applicable to each contract will be recorded as revenue by the end of each respective contract term. Our total deferred revenue and unbilled revenue balances were \$96.4 million and \$12.0 million as of March 31, 2022, respectively. Additionally, our aircraft lease and fixed rate revenue increased as a result of the 22 E175 aircraft added to our fleet since March 31, 2021.

The increase in prorate agreements revenue of \$10.5 million was primarily due to the increase in prorate passengers and passenger revenue we received on routes we operated under our prorate agreements during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 demand recovery, our prorate passenger load factors increased during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, despite operating fewer prorate flights for the three months ended March 31, 2022.

The increase in lease, airport services and other revenues of \$3.7 million was primarily due to an increase in airport service revenue due to the increase in the number of flights operated at locations where we were contracted to provide airport customer service during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021.

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Operating Expenses

Individual expense components attributable to our operations are set forth in the following table (dollar amounts in thousands):

	For the three months ended March 31,			
	2022	2021	\$ Change	% Change
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 300,058	\$ 219,842	\$ 80,216	36.5 %
Aircraft maintenance, materials and repairs	148,413	203,827	(55,414)	(27.2)%
Depreciation and amortization	102,745	109,597	(6,852)	(6.3)%
Aircraft fuel	25,090	19,194	5,896	30.7 %
Airport-related expenses	19,205	24,448	(5,243)	(21.4)%
Aircraft rentals	15,996	15,490	506	3.3 %
Payroll support grant	—	(193,173)	193,173	(100.0)%
Other operating expenses	71,597	54,488	17,109	31.4 %
Total operating expenses	\$ 683,104	\$ 453,713	\$ 229,391	50.6 %
Interest expense	28,592	31,354	(2,762)	(8.8)%
Total airline expenses	\$ 711,696	\$ 485,067	\$ 226,629	46.7 %

Salaries, wages and benefits. The \$80.2 million, or 36.5%, increase in salaries, wages and benefits was due to increased costs to retain aviation professionals and increased direct labor costs resulting from the higher number of flights we operated during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021.

Aircraft maintenance, materials and repairs. The \$55.4 million, or 27.2%, decrease in aircraft maintenance expense was primarily due to reliability improvement costs incurred on a portion of SkyWest Airlines' CRJ700 and CRJ200 fleets, including engine maintenance expense throughout the 2021 year, including the three months ended March 31, 2021.

Depreciation and amortization. The \$6.9 million, or 6.3%, decrease in depreciation and amortization expense was primarily due to certain CRJ200 aircraft that became fully depreciated since March 31, 2021. This reduction in depreciation on our CRJ200 fleet was partially offset by an increase in depreciation expense due to the acquisition of 22 new E175 aircraft and spare engines since March 31, 2021.

Aircraft fuel. The \$5.9 million, or 30.7%, increase in fuel cost was primarily due to an increase in our average fuel cost per gallon from \$2.13 for the three months ended March 31, 2021, to \$3.40 for the three months ended March 31, 2022, offset by a decrease in the number of flights we operated under our prorate arrangements and the corresponding decrease in gallons of fuel we purchased. We purchase and incur expense for all fuel on flights operated under our prorate agreements. All fuel costs incurred under our capacity purchase agreements are either purchased directly by our major airline partner, or if purchased by us, we record the direct reimbursement as a reduction to our fuel expense. The following table summarizes the gallons of fuel we purchased under our prorate agreements, for the periods indicated:

(in thousands)	For the three months ended March 31,		
	2022	2021	% Change
Fuel gallons purchased	7,381	9,010	(18.1)%
Fuel expense	\$ 25,090	\$ 19,194	30.7 %

Airport-related expenses. Airport-related expenses include airport-related customer service costs such as outsourced airport gate and ramp agent services, airport security fees, passenger interruption costs, deicing, landing fees and station rents. For clarity, our employee airport customer service labor costs are reflected in salaries, wages and benefits and the customer service labor costs we outsource to third parties are included in airport-related expenses. The \$5.2 million, or 21.4%, decrease in airport-related expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, was primarily due to a decrease in subcontracted airport services and deicing events as a result of a decrease in the number of flights we operated under our prorate arrangements.

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Aircraft rentals. The \$0.5 million, or 3.3%, increase in aircraft rentals was primarily related to an additional aircraft leased from a third party since March 31, 2021.

Payroll support grant. In January 2021, we entered into an agreement with U.S. Treasury and received \$233.1 million in emergency relief through the 2021 Appropriations Act payroll support program, of which \$193.2 million was in the form of payroll support grants that were recognized as a reduction in labor expense over the periods the grants intended to compensate. We recognized \$193.2 million in payroll support grant proceeds we received as a reduction to our operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2021. We did not have a comparable payroll support grant during the three months ended March 31, 2022.

Other operating expenses. Other operating expenses primarily consist of property taxes, hull and liability insurance, simulator costs, crew per diem, crew hotel costs and credit loss reserves. The \$17.1 million, or 31.4%, increase in other operating expenses was primarily related to an increase in other operating costs that correspond to the higher number of flights we operated during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, such as crew per diem, crew hotel costs and simulator costs.

Interest Expense. The \$2.8 million, or 8.8%, decrease in interest expense was primarily related to an overall lower effective interest rate during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021.

Total airline expenses. Our total airline expenses, comprised of our total operating expenses and interest expense, increased \$226.6 million, or 46.7%, primarily due the payroll support program grant reflected as an offset to operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2021 and an increase in direct operating costs attributed to the higher number of completed flights during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021.

As our interest expense is primarily attributed to debt associated with financing aircraft under our capacity purchase agreements and as revenue earned under our capacity purchase agreements is intended to compensate us for our aircraft ownership costs, including interest expense, we believe our total airline expense is a meaningful expense measure for management discussion and analysis purposes.

Summary of interest income, other income (expense) and provision for income taxes:

Interest income. Interest income increased \$0.1 million, or 49.6%, during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021. The increase in interest income was primarily related to an increase in average interest rates attributed to our marketable securities subsequent to March 31, 2021.

Other income (expense), net. Other income primarily consisted of income related to our investment in a joint venture with a third party.

Provision for income taxes. For the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, our effective income tax rates were 28.4% and 28.2%, respectively, which include the statutory federal income tax rate of 21% and other reconciling income tax items, including state income taxes and the impact of non-deductible expenses.

Net income. Primarily due to the factors described above, we generated net income of \$17.7 million, or \$0.35 per diluted share, for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to net income of \$35.9 million, or \$0.71 per diluted share, for the three months ended March 31, 2021.

Our Business Segments

Three Months Ended March 31, 2022 and 2021

For the three months ended March 31, 2022, we had two reportable segments, which were the basis of our internal financial reporting: SkyWest Airlines and SkyWest Leasing. Our segment disclosure relates to components of our business for which separate financial information is available to, and regularly evaluated by, our chief operating decision maker.

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	For the three months ended March 31, (dollar amounts in thousands)			
	2022	2021	\$ Change	% Change
Operating Revenues:				
SkyWest Airlines operating revenue	\$ 603,048	\$ 406,450	\$ 196,598	48.4 %
SkyWest Leasing operating revenues	132,104	128,105	3,999	3.1 %
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 735,152	\$ 534,555	\$ 200,597	37.5 %
Airline Expenses:				
SkyWest Airlines airline expense	\$ 622,817	\$ 390,999	\$ 231,818	59.3 %
SkyWest Leasing airline expense	88,879	94,068	(5,189)	(5.5)%
Total Airline Expenses (1)	\$ 711,696	\$ 485,067	\$ 226,629	46.7 %
Segment profit:				
SkyWest Airlines segment profit (loss)	\$ (19,769)	\$ 15,451	\$ (35,220)	(227.9)%
SkyWest Leasing profit	43,225	34,037	9,188	27.0 %
Total Segment Profit	\$ 23,456	\$ 49,488	\$ (26,032)	(52.6)%
Interest Income	425	284	141	49.6 %
Other Income, net	880	216	664	307.4 %
Consolidated Income Before Taxes	\$ 24,761	\$ 49,988	\$ (25,227)	(50.5)%

(1) Total Airline Expenses includes operating expense and interest expense.

SkyWest Airlines Segment Profit (Loss). SkyWest Airlines segment profit decreased \$35.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021.

SkyWest Airlines block hour production increased to 310,993, or 12.6%, for the three months ended March 31, 2022, from 276,182 for the three months ended March 31, 2021, primarily due to demand recovery from reduced flight schedules in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Significant items contributing to the SkyWest Airlines segment profit (loss) are set forth below.

SkyWest Airlines operating revenues increased \$196.6 million, or 48.4%, from the three months ended March 31, 2021, to the three months ended March 31, 2022, due to increased flight schedules, increased passenger demand under our prorate agreements, and more flights we handled under our airport service agreements, collectively as a result of the demand recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. SkyWest Airlines also provided temporary rate reductions to our major airline partners under our capacity purchase agreements during the three months ended March 31, 2021. Additionally, during the three months ended March 31, 2022, SkyWest Airlines recognized \$7.5 million of previously deferred revenue and \$3.6 million of unbilled revenue on our capacity purchase agreements, compared to deferring revenue of \$21.2 million during the three months ended March 31, 2021.

SkyWest Airlines airline expense increased \$231.8 million, or 59.3%, from the three months ended March 31, 2021, to the three months ended March 31, 2022, due to the following primary factors:

- SkyWest Airlines' salaries, wages and benefits expense increased by \$80.2 million, or 36.6%, primarily due to increased costs to retain aviation professionals and increased direct labor costs resulting from the higher number of flights we operated during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021.
- SkyWest Airlines' aircraft maintenance, materials and repairs expense decreased by \$55.3 million, or 27.7%, primarily due to reliability improvement costs incurred on a portion of SkyWest Airlines' CRJ700 and CRJ200 fleets, including engine maintenance expense throughout the 2021 year, including the three months ended March 31, 2021.
- SkyWest Airlines' depreciation and amortization expense decreased by \$2.6 million, or 5.2%, primarily due to certain CRJ200 aircraft that became fully depreciated since March 31, 2021, partially offset by an increase in depreciation expense related to the acquisition of used CRJ700 aircraft since March 31, 2021.

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- SkyWest Airlines' fuel expense increased \$5.9 million, or 30.7%, due to an increase in our average fuel cost per gallon from \$2.13 for the three months ended March 31, 2021, to \$3.40 for the three months ended March 31, 2022, offset by a decrease in the number of flights we operated under our prorate arrangements and the corresponding decrease in gallons of fuel we purchased.
- SkyWest Airlines recognized \$193.2 million in payroll support grant proceeds as a reduction to our operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2021. SkyWest Airlines did not have a comparable grant for the three months ended March 31, 2022.
- SkyWest Airlines' remaining airline expenses increased \$10.5 million, or 11.0%, primarily related to an increase in other operating costs that correspond to the higher number of flights we operated for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, such as crew per diem, crew hotel costs and simulator costs.

SkyWest Leasing Segment Profit. SkyWest Leasing profit increased \$9.2 million, or 27.0%, during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, primarily due to the acquisition of 22 new E175 aircraft added to our fleet subsequent to March 31, 2021.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

As of March 31, 2022, we had \$856.4 million in cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities. As of March 31, 2022, we had \$68.6 million available for borrowings under our line of credit. Given our available liquidity as of March 31, 2022, and given the measures we have implemented to reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our financial position and operations, we believe the working capital currently available to us will be sufficient to meet our present financial requirements, including planned capital expenditures, scheduled lease payments, and debt service obligations for at least the next 12 months.

Our total cash and marketable securities decreased from \$860.4 million as of December 31, 2021, to \$856.4 million as of March 31, 2022, or by \$4.0 million. At March 31, 2022, our total capital mix was 45.1% equity and 54.9% long-term debt, compared to 45.5% equity and 54.5% long-term debt at December 31, 2021.

As of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, we had \$61.4 million in letters of credit and surety bonds outstanding with various banks and surety institutions. We had no restricted cash as of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021.

Sources and Uses of Cash

Cash Position and Liquidity. The following table provides a summary of the net cash provided by (used in) our operating, investing and financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2022 and 2021, and our total cash and marketable securities positions as of March 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021 (in thousands):

	For the three months ended March 31,			
	2022	2021	\$ Change	% Change
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 20,508	\$ 231,593	\$ (211,085)	(91.1)%
Net cash used in investing activities	(124,667)	(121,407)	(3,260)	2.7 %
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	91,739	(94,904)	186,643	(196.7)%

	March 31, 2022	December 31, 2021	\$ Change	% Change
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 246,001	\$ 258,421	\$ (12,420)	(4.8)%
Marketable securities	610,450	601,989	8,461	1.4 %
Total	\$ 856,451	\$ 860,410	\$ (3,959)	(0.5)%

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Cash Flows provided by Operating Activities

Our cash flows provided by operating activities was \$20.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to \$231.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021. Our operating cash flows are typically impacted by various factors including our net income, adjusted for non-cash expenses and gains such as depreciation expense, stock-based compensation expense, and gains or losses on the disposal of assets; and timing of cash payments and cash receipts attributed to our various current asset and liability accounts, such as accounts receivable, inventory, accounts payable, accrued liabilities, deferred revenue and deferred payroll support grant proceeds.

The decrease in our cash flow from operations for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, was primarily due to the timing of cash payments on our current liability accounts and changes in our deferred and unbilled revenue accounts for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, combined with a decrease in net income from \$35.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021, to \$17.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022.

Cash Flows used in Investing Activities

Our cash flows used in investing activities was \$124.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to cash flows used in investing activities of \$121.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021. Our investing cash flows are typically impacted by various factors including our capital expenditures, such as the acquisition of aircraft and spare engines; deposit payments and refunds of previously made deposits on new aircraft; purchase and sales of marketable securities; proceeds from the sale of assets; and timing of cash payments and cash receipts attributed to our various long-term asset and long-term liability accounts.

Cash used for the acquisition of property and equipment increased by \$57.9 million from \$56.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021, to \$114.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, primarily due to the purchase of four new E175 aircraft during the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the purchase of four used CRJ700 aircraft during the three months ended March 31, 2021. Additionally, the reduction in the cash used in other long-term assets for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, resulted from the timing of payments received from our major airline partners attributed to our long-term receivables. In 2020, we amended certain debt agreements on our aircraft which suspended our obligation to make debt service payments for an approximately six-month period during 2020. Concurrently, we suspended required aircraft ownership payments due to us from our major airline partners under our capacity purchase agreements during the same period. We anticipate collecting the payments on these long-term receivables from our major airline partners over the remaining contract terms.

Cash Flows provided by (used in) Financing Activities

Our cash flows provided by financing activities was \$91.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to cash used in financing activities of \$94.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2021. Our financing cash flows are typically impacted by various factors including proceeds from issuance of debt, principal payments on debt obligations, repurchases of our common stock and payment of cash dividends.

The \$186.6 million increase in cash provided by financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2022, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021, was primarily due to an increase of \$145.8 million in proceeds from the issuance of long-term debt primarily related to the acquisition of four E175 aircraft and a \$102.9 million promissory note executed during the three months ended March 31, 2022. Additionally, cash used for principal payments on long-term debt decreased \$41.0 million from the three months ended March 31, 2021 to the three months ended March 31, 2022, primarily due to paying off a portion of our long-term debt during the three months ended March 31, 2021.

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Significant Commitments and Obligations

General

See Note 6, "Leases, Commitments and Contingencies," to the condensed consolidated financial statements for our commitments and obligations for each of the next five years and thereafter.

Purchase Commitments and Options

As of March 31, 2022, we had a firm purchase commitment for 25 new E175 aircraft from Embraer with delivery dates anticipated into the first half of 2023.

At the time of each aircraft acquisition, we evaluate the financing alternatives available to us, and select one or more of these methods to fund the acquisition. In recent years, we have issued long-term debt to finance our new aircraft. At present, we intend to fund our aircraft purchase commitments through cash on hand and debt financing. Based on current market conditions and discussions with prospective leasing organizations and financial institutions, we currently believe that we will be able to obtain financing for our committed acquisitions, as well as additional aircraft. We intend to finance the firm purchase commitment for 25 E175 aircraft with approximately 80-85% debt and the remaining balance with cash.

Aircraft Lease and Facility Obligations

We also have significant long-term lease obligations, primarily relating to our aircraft fleet. Excluding aircraft financed by our major airline partners that we operate for them under contract, we had 43 aircraft under lease with remaining terms ranging from two years to eight years as of March 31, 2022. Future minimum lease payments due under all long-term operating leases were approximately \$280.8 million at March 31, 2022. Assuming a 6.0% discount rate, which is the average incremental borrowing rate we anticipate we would have incurred on debt obtained over a similar term to acquire these assets, the present value of these lease obligations would have been equal to approximately \$226.9 million at March 31, 2022.

Long-term Debt Obligations

As of March 31, 2022, we had \$2.9 billion of long-term debt obligations related to the acquisition of aircraft. The average effective interest rate on those long-term debt obligations was approximately 3.9% at March 31, 2022. We also had \$200.6 million of long-term debt obligations under the Payroll Support Program Agreement, PSP Extension Agreement, and Payroll Support Program 3 Agreement with U.S. Treasury and \$102.9 million of long-term debt secured by spare engines.

Under our capacity purchase agreements, the major airline partners compensate us for our costs of owning or leasing the aircraft on a monthly basis. The aircraft compensation structure varies by agreement, but is intended to cover either our aircraft principal and interest debt service costs, our aircraft depreciation and interest expense or our aircraft lease expense costs while the aircraft is under contract.

Guarantees

We have guaranteed the obligations of SkyWest Airlines under the United Express Agreement and the Delta Connection Agreement for the E175 aircraft. In addition, we have guaranteed certain other obligations under SkyWest Airlines' aircraft financing and leasing agreements.

Seasonality

Our results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of those for an entire year, since the airline industry is subject to seasonal fluctuations and general economic conditions. Our operations are somewhat favorably affected by increased travel on our prorate routes, historically occurring during the summer months, and unfavorably affected by decreased travel during the months of November through February and by inclement weather,

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which may occasionally or frequently, depending on the severity of the inclement weather in any given winter, result in cancelled flights during the winter months.

ITEM 3: QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Aircraft Fuel

In the past, we have not experienced sustained material difficulties with fuel availability, and we currently expect to be able to obtain fuel at prevailing prices in quantities sufficient to meet our future needs. Pursuant to our contract flying arrangements, United, Delta, American and Alaska have agreed to bear the economic risk of fuel price fluctuations on our contracted flights. We bear the economic risk of fuel price fluctuations on our prorate operations. For the three months ended March 31, 2022, approximately 11.2% of our total flying agreements revenue was derived from prorate agreements. For the three months ended March 31, 2022, the average price per gallon of aircraft fuel was \$3.40. For illustrative purposes only, we have estimated the impact of the market risk of fuel price fluctuations on our prorate operations using a hypothetical increase of 25% in the price per gallon we purchase. Based on this hypothetical assumption, we would have incurred an additional \$6.3 million in fuel expense for the three months ended March 31, 2022.

Interest Rates

As of March 31, 2022, our long-term debt had fixed interest rates. We currently intend to finance the acquisition of new aircraft through manufacturer financing or long-term borrowings. Changes in interest rates may impact the actual cost to us to acquire future aircraft. To the extent we place new aircraft in service under our capacity purchase agreements with United, Delta, American, Alaska or other carriers, our capacity purchase agreements currently provide that reimbursement rates will be adjusted to reflect the interest rates effective at the closing of the respective aircraft financing. A hypothetical 50 basis point change in market interest rates would not have a material effect on our financial results.

Inflation Risk

If our costs become subject to significant inflationary pressures, we may not be able to fully offset such higher costs through price increases under our capacity purchase agreements. Salaries, wages and benefits expense represented 43.9% of our total operating expense for the three months ended March 31, 2022. For illustrative purposes, a hypothetical increase of 25% in our salaries, wages and benefits during the three months ended March 31, 2022, would have increased our operating expenses by approximately \$75.0 million. Our inability or failure to offset a material increase in costs due to inflation could harm our business, financial condition, and operating results.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, performed an evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, which have been designed to ensure that information we are required to disclose in the reports we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC. Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that, as of March 31, 2022, those controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information we are required to disclose in the reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control

During the three months ended March 31, 2022, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act).

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PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are subject to certain legal actions which we consider routine to our business activities. As of March 31, 2022, our management believed, after consultation with legal counsel, that the ultimate outcome of such legal matters was not likely to have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity or results of operations.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information set forth in this Report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed in Part I, Item 1A, “Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, and in our other filings with the SEC, which factors could materially affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. The risks described in our reports filed with the SEC are not the only risks facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer
32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer
32.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer
101.INS	Inline XBRL Instance Document - the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document.
101.SCH	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2022, to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, on May 5, 2022.

SKYWEST, INC.

By /s/ Robert J. Simmons

Robert J. Simmons

Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit 31.1

CERTIFICATION

I, Russell A. Childs, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of SkyWest, Inc. for the quarter ended March 31, 2022.
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report.
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of and for the periods presented in this report.
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 5, 2022

/s/ Russell A. Childs

Russell A. Childs
Chief Executive Officer and President

Exhibit 31.2

CERTIFICATION

I, Robert J. Simmons, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of SkyWest, Inc. for the quarter ended March 31, 2022.
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report.
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of and for the periods presented in this report.
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 5, 2022

/s/ Robert J. Simmons

Robert J. Simmons
Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit 32.1

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of SkyWest, Inc. (the "Company") for the quarter ended March 31, 2022, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Russell A. Childs, Chief Executive Officer and President of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to the best of my knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Russell A. Childs

Russell A. Childs
Chief Executive Officer and President
May 5, 2022

This certification accompanies the Report pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and shall not, except to the extent required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Exhibit 32.2

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT
TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of SkyWest, Inc. (the "Company") for the quarter ended March 31, 2022, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Robert J. Simmons, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to the best of my knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Robert J. Simmons

Robert J. Simmons
Chief Financial Officer
May 5, 2022

This certification accompanies the Report pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and shall not, except to the extent required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
