Seattle-Tacoma International Airport

Information Regarding "Raw" Noise Data

This provides important information about the contents and use of "raw" noise data provided by the Port.

What is "raw" noise data? This "raw" data is unfiltered noise data that was captured during a particular time period by one of the Port's noise monitors. The files contain unprocessed 1 second dB recorded data that is not correlated ("matched") with aircraft overflights.

How does the Port's vendor process the data? The data contained in the raw noise files has been downloaded directly from the noise monitors and has not been reviewed or altered. The data in its raw form may reflect noise from airplanes or other sources. Our vendor downloads the 1 second data daily, reviews and configures it using algorithms (a set of calculating instructions) to identify aircraft and community noise profiles and then uses aircraft overflight correlations to calculate standard aviation noise metrics.

Why does the Port use a vendor? The vendor has special software used in processing, correlating and interpreting the "raw" data and flight track information. Staff at the Port's Airport Noise Office cannot interpret the raw data files to provide further information.

How can I view the raw data files? The unprocessed raw data files can only be viewed using the Larson Davis G4 Utility program. That software can be found on the vendor's website at www.larsondavis.com/products/software/slm-software-solutions/slm-utility-g4

Data Limitations. As required by the FAA, the Port relies on the annual Noise Contour Day Night Level ("DNL") values generated by the Federal Aviation Administration's required model, known as the Aviation Environmental Design Tool (AEDT). The AEDT model uses operations, flight track data and weather information to create DNL values and does not use data from noise monitors. In addition, the noise monitor data files are not comparable to DNL values and not determinative of which properties are eligible for sound insulation under FAA's rules.

Where can I find Additional information on the Port's Noise Data? A link (labeled as Airport Noise Data) to SEA-related aircraft-correlated data in nationally accepted aviation noise metrics can be found on the Port's web site at www.portseattle.org/page/aircraft-noise-monitoring-system

Information contained in the raw data files, including terminology and noise metrics not typically used by the Port such as LZpeak, LASmax, LASmin, can be found on the noise monitor manufacturer's website: www.larsondavis.com/support/sound-measurement-terminology

How do I obtain the "raw" data?   The Port is committed to providing full assistance to those seeking access to Port records. As a special-purpose municipal corporation serving the citizens of King County, the Port complies with the Washington State Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW. Please submit a Public Records request for the "raw" noise data, at the link below. In your request for records, please include the following—the date range, time, and specific noise monitor number or location.
portofseattle.nextrequest.com/requests/new

Legal Disclaimer. The data is being provided by request through the Port's Public Disclosure process and is intended for community informational purposes only. The Port of Seattle makes no promises, representations or warranties regarding the suitability of the raw data for use in any fashion or regarding the accuracy of the data.

You are solely responsible for any use of the data. The Port disclaims any and all liability to you or any other person or entity for claims, losses, damages or other injuries of any kind (including and indirect, special, incidental, consequential damages, lost profits or damages for any financial or economic loss) connected with the use of or arising out of, related to or otherwise incurred as a result of the use of such data, all of which shall be the sole responsibility of the person requesting the data or making it available for such use.