

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FEB 2016: Air Transport Monthly Monitor

World Results and Analyses for DEC 2015. Total scheduled services (domestic and international).

http://www.icao.int/sustainability/Pages/Air-1	Traffic-Monitor.aspx	Air Transport Bureau E-mail: ecd@icao.int			
GLOBAL KEY FIGURES	DEC 2015 (versus DEC 2014)	OUTLOOK* - JAN 2016 (versus JAN 2015)			
	<b>RPK ▲</b> +5.4% <b>ASK ▲</b> +5.3% <b>FTK ▲</b> +0.8% <b>LF</b> : 78.8% <b>▲</b> +0.1 pts	ASK +6.3% * Source OAG			

## PASSENGER TRAFFIC

### **Revenue Passenger-Kilometres** - **RPK**

**World passenger traffic grew by +5.4% YoY in December 2015**. Key domestic markets continued to show strong growth, with India posting a significant high growth of +25.0%. Despite the moderate economic growth during the year, total passenger traffic grew by around +6.8% in the year 2015, and reached the highest level after the rebound in 2010, due to the lower air fares offered by carriers benefiting from the substantial fall in oil price in the later half of the year.



### **International Traffic vs. Tourist Arrivals**

**International passenger traffic grew by 5.6% YoY in December 2015**, same as the growth in the previous month. Total international passenger traffic grew by around +6.7% in the year 2015. Europe accounted for the largest traffic share, and Middle East remained as the fastest growing region.

International tourist arrivals\* followed a similar monthly trend.



## FREIGHT TRAFFIC

ACRONYMS

## Freight Tonne-Kilometres - FTK

World freight traffic increased by +0.8% YoY in December 2015. The growth of Africa and Latin America/Caribbean contracted by -8.4% and -6.2% respectively, while moderate growth of +1.2% was observed for other regions combined. Freight traffic growth remained subdued through the year 2015, except for the spike in February caused by the US West Coast port crisis. Total freight traffic grew by around +2.2% in 2015, less than half of the +4.9% growth registered in 2014, reflecting the stagnating world trade development. Middle East , however, grew strongly during the year, offsetting to some extent the weakness in other regions. The poor air cargo demand also resulted in a decline in freight load factor by around 3.0 percentage points.

## CAPACITY

### Available Seat-Kilometres - ASK

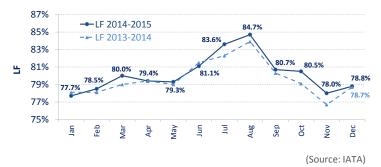
**Capacity worldwide increased by +5.3% in December 2015 YoY**, +1.1 percentage points higher than the November 2015 capacity growth (+4.2%). Capacity offered in all regions has increased in 2015, and the total expansion was around +6.1%.

The expansion of capacity is expected to accelerate in January 2016, in response to the passenger traffic demand.



### Load Factor - LF

**The passenger Load Factor reached 78.8% in December 2015**, similar to the LF recorded in the same period last year. Average load factor in 2015 improved by 0.5 percentage points compared to 2014, and reached a high level of 80.2%. Air carriers were able to better match capacity with demand during the year, as a result, the total traffic growth outstripped capacity expansion by around +0.7 percentage points.





ACI: Airports Council International; ASK: Available Seat-Kilometres; IATA: International Air Transport Association; FTK: Freight Tonne-Kilometres; LF: Passenger Load Factor; OAG: Official Airline Guide; RPK: Revenue Passenger-Kilometres; UNWTO: World Tourism Organization; YOY: Year-on-year; YTD: Year-to-date.



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**DEC 15** 

(Source: ACI)

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## TOP 15 AIRPORTS (Ranked by aircraft departures, passengers and volume of freight)

### DEC 2015: +1.4%, +4.5%, and +0.3% YoY in terms of aircraft departures, passengers and freight for the Top 15

Airports (ranking by number of departures)	Departures	ΥοΥ	Airports (ranking by number of passengers)	Passengers*	ΥοΥ	Airports (ranking by tonnes of freight)	Freight**	ΥοΥ
Atlanta GA, US (ATL)	36,534	2.4%	Atlanta GA, US (ATL)	4,110,941	5.1%	Hong Kong, CN (HKG)	391,000	1.0%
Chicago IL, US (ORD)	34,464	-4.4%	Beijing, CN (PEK)	3,610,968	<b>1</b> 3.0%	Memphis TN, US (MEM)	363,851	1.2%
Dallas/Fort Worth TX, US (DFW)	28,388	-3.0%	Dubai, AE (DXB)	3,526,622	8.5%	Shanghai, CN (PVG)	280,440	1.2%
Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	28,023	4.5%	Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	3,192,190	7.8%	Louisville KY, US (SDF)	255,796	<b>1</b> 5.1%
Beijing, CN (PEK)	24,871	1.8%	Tokyo, JP (HND)	3,177,600	6.4%	Dubai, AE (DXB)	218,408	<b>1</b> 5.2%
Denver CO, US (DEN)	22,976	-1.4%	Chicago IL, US (ORD)	3,062,922	7.6%	Anchorage AK, US (ANC)	213,940	-2.6%
Charlotte NC, US (CLT)	22,536	-1.9%	Hong Kong, CN (HKG)	2,984,000	6.0%	Incheon, KR (ICN)	206,593	-1.0%
Houston TX, US (IAH)	20,912	-3.9%	London, GB (LHR)	2,951,861	-0.4%	Miami FL, US (MIA)	179,969	-0.8%
Las Vegas NV, US (LAS)	20,333	4.6%	Istanbul, TR (IST)	2,724,069	21.4%	Beijing, CN (PEK)	177,897	4.0%
Shanghai, CN (PVG)	19,190	10.8%	Singapore, SG (SIN)	2,646,500	3.9%	Tokyo, JP (NRT)	169,752	-3.9%
Miami FL, US (MIA)	19,174	2.1%	Dallas/Fort Worth TX, US (DFW)	2,618,026	1.1%	Taipei, CN (TPE)	165,898	4 -10.1%
Newark NJ, US (EWR)	19,098	1.9%	Jakarta, ID (CGK)	2,594,349	-0.8%	Paris, FR (CDG)	165,434	1.7%
Phoenix AZ, US (PHX)	19,076	2.3%	Bangkok, TH (BKK)	2,444,597	<b>1</b> 3.7%	Singapore, SG (SIN)	163,600	<b>1</b> 3.2%
Istanbul, TR (IST)	18,780	<b>1</b> 3.6%	Paris, FR (CDG)	2,417,346	-3.4%	Frankfurt, DE (FRA)	162,693	-1.3%
Mexico City, MX (MEX)	18,746	3.6%	Kuala Lumpur, MY (KUL)	2,415,560	-0.4%	Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	155,721	1.6%

**Note**: Total scheduled and non-scheduled services

In terms of **aircraft departures**, the Top 15 airports reported a growth of **+1.4%** YoY. **Atlanta** remained **1st** with a growth of **+2.4%**. Total departures in **Chicago** dropped by **-4.4%**, with main airlines like United Airlines having reduced departures from the airport. **Shanghai** achieved the highest growth of **+10.8%**, corresponding with the strong domestic traffic demand in China.

### TOP 15 AIRLINE GROUPS (Ranked by RPK)

#### DEC 2015: +5.1% YoY in terms of RPK for the Top 15

In terms of RPK, the Top 15 airline groups accounted for 48.8% of world total RPK in December 2015, and grew by +5.1% YoY. This growth was -0.3 percentage points lower than the world average on scheduled services. All the Top 15 airline groups posted a YoY growth.

American ranked 1st in RPK with a growth of +1.5% YoY. United and Delta remained 2nd and 3rd with a growth of +1.5% and +1.6%, respectively.

Emirates, the only carrier from the Middle East region in the Top 15, grew by +6.6%, and remained at the 4th place.

For the European airlines, **AF-KLM** grew slightly by **+0.7%** and ranked **5th**. **IAG** grew by **+10.5%** and remained at **6th**. **Lufthansa** ranked **8th** with a growth of **+3.8%**. **Turkish Airlines** grew by **+11.3%**, while ranked 1 position lower to **15th** compared to the previous month.

For carriers in Asia/Pacific, **China Southern** dropped 1 position to **9th** with a moderate growth of **+5.4%**. **Air China** and **China Eastern** continued to grow strongly by **+11.3%** and **+17.1%**, and remained at the same position of **10th** and **11th**, respectively.

## CAPACITY BY REGION (ICAO Statistical Regions)

### DEC 2015

All regions posted a positive YoY growth in capacity in December 2015 with a +5.3% increase in worldwide capacity, -0.8 percentage points lower to the 2015 full year result.

Asia/Pacific accounted for the highest share of the world capacity offered in the month, and increased by +6.6%. Middle East recorded the highest capacity increase among all regions by +10.3%. Africa continued to show improvements, and capacity was expanded by +7.8%. Capacity offered by carriers in other regions increased at a relatively moderate rate. Overall capacity offered in the year 2015 expanded by +6.1% compared to 2014. Both international and domestic capacity have increased, and faster expansion was observed in international capacity.

In terms of **passengers**, the Top 15 airports reported a growth of **+4.5%** YoY. **Atlanta** remained **1st** with **+5.1%** increase. Most airports in the Top 15 posted an increase, with **Istanbul** recording a significant high growth of **+21.4%**. Despite a decrease in departures, passengers in **Chicago** increased by **+7.6%**, mostly contributed by the increase in domestic passengers. In terms of **freight**, the Top 15 airports reported a slight increase of **+0.3%** YoY. Air freight markets remained fragile. **Hong Kong** ranked **1st** with an increase of **+1.0%**. Some key export economies have been impacted by the weak trade development, with **-10.1%** decline in **Taipei. Dubai** continued to grow, and recorded the highest growth by **+5.2%**.

DEC 15 % Share RPK (billion) Cumulative YoY of World 10 15 20 25 30 % Share 35 Total American 29.5 1.5% 5.6% 5.6% United 27.6 1.5% 5.3% 10.9% Ŷ Ŷ Delta 15.9% 26.3 1.6% 5.0% Emirates 22.6 6.6% 4.3% 20.2% AF-KLM 18.57 0.7% 3.5% 23.8% IAG 17.55 10.5% 3.4% 27.1% Southwest 16.1 8.6% 3.1% 30.2% ł Lufthansa Group 3.8% 33.1% 15.2 2.9% **China Southern** 15.1 5.4% 2.9% 36.0% 11.3% 38.7% Air China 14.2 2.7% China Eastern 12.0 17.1% 2.3% 41.0% Singapore Airlines Group 10.8 2.1% 2.1% 43.0% Ā 7.8% 2.0% 45.1% Cathay Pacific Group 10.6 ¢ 2.1% 1.9% 46.9% LATAM Airlines Group 9.7 合 11.3% 1.8% 48.8% **Turkish Airlines** 9.6 Top 15 Total RPKs 255 billion h 5.1% 48.8% World Total RPKs 524 billion k 5.4% 100.0%

(Source: ICAO, airlines' websites)

Note: Total scheduled and non-scheduled services

		DEC 15				YTD (JAN - DEC 2015)				
	ASK	%		YoY	ASK (billion)	%		YoY		
Asia/Pacific	212	32%		6.6%	2,427	30%		6.9%		
Europe	160	24%	倉	2.8%	2,161	27%	倉	4.0%		
North America	161	24%		3.6%	1,943	24%		3.9%		
Middle East	71	11%		10.3%	818	10%		13.8%		
Latin America	40	6%		4.4%	443	6%		5.7%		
Africa	19	3%	倉	7.8%	224	3%	倉	0.9%		
World	664	100%		5.3%	8,015	100%		6.1%		

(Source: ICAO, IATA, OAG)

Note: Total scheduled services

\* Embarked Passengers \*\* Loaded and Unloaded Freight in Tonnes 1. IAG: British Airways, Iberia, and Vueling 2. Lufthansa Group: Lufthansa Airlines, Germanwings, SWISS, Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Sun Express, and Lufthansa Cargo 3. Cathay Pacific Group: Cathay Pacific and Dragonair

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