

# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

# MAR 2018: Air Transport Monthly Monitor

World Results and Analyses for JAN 2018. Total scheduled services (domestic and international).

Air Transport Bureau E-mail: ecd@icao.int

GLOBAL KEY FIGURES

**JAN 2018** (versus JAN 2017)

**RPK** ▲ +4.6% **ASK** ▲ +5.3% **FTK** ▲ +8.0%

**LF**: 79.6% ▼-0.6 pt

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OUTLOOK\* - FEB 2018

**ASK** ▲ +5.5%

\* Source OAG

#### PASSENGER TRAFFIC

#### Revenue Passenger-Kilometres - RPK

http://www.icao.int/sustainability/Pages/Air-Traffic-Monitor.aspx

World passenger traffic grew by +4.6% YoY in January 2018, -1.6 percentage points lower from the growth in the previous month. Traffic growth was distorted mainly by the effect of later timing of the Chinese New Year this year which started in January last year. Europe was the only region posting acceleration in growth, and became the fastest growing region followed by Asia/Pacific. The Middle East experienced the slowest growth among all regions. Domestic traffic demand in India continued to be strong and grew double-digitally.



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

International passenger traffic grew by +4.4% YoY in January 2018, -1.6 percentage points lower from the growth in the previous month. All regions decelerated in growth, with the exception of Europe which recorded the second highest growth after Latin America/Caribbean.

The growth of international tourist arrivals  $^{\ast}$  followed a similar monthly trend.



#### **CAPACITY**

#### Available Seat-Kilometres - ASK

Capacity worldwide increased by +5.3% YoY in January 2018, -0.5 percentage points lower than the growth in the previous month (+5.8%).

In response to the passenger traffic demand, the expansion of capacity is expected to be at +5.5% in February 2018.



#### Load Factor - LF

The passenger Load Factor reached 79.6% in January 2018, -1.1 percentage points lower than the LF recorded in the previous month.

As capacity expansion outpaced the traffic growth, the January LF was -0.6 percentage points lower than the rate in the same period in 2017.



#### FREIGHT TRAFFIC

#### Freight Tonne-Kilometres - FTK

World freight traffic grew by +8.0% YoY in January 2018, +2.3 percentage points higher than the growth in the previous month. Despite the distorted slower growth in December last year, freight traffic growth remained on track, supported by the increasing demand of exports. All regions posted acceleration in growth, with exception of Africa and Latin America/Caribbean. Africa, however, continued to record the fastest growth, supported by the strengthening in trade between Africa and Asia/Pacific. Europe recorded the most significant pickup in growth, and grew double-digitally. Similar to passenger traffic, the Middle East experienced the slowest growth among all regions.



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

JAN 2018: +1.6%, +2.9%, and +7.2% YoY in terms of aircraft departures, passengers and freight for the Top 15

**JAN 18** 

(Source: ACI)

Airports (ranking by number of departures)	Departures	YoY	Airports (ranking by number of passengers)	Passengers*	YoY	Airports (ranking by tonnes of freight)	Freight**	YoY
Atlanta GA, US (ATL)	34,914	-1.0%	Beijing, CN (PEK)	4,075,660	-0.4%	Hong Kong, CN (HKG)	410,000	9.9%
Chicago IL, US (ORD)	32,736	<b>↓</b> -0.8%	Dubai, AE (DXB)	3,980,073	-1.0%	Memphis TN, US (MEM)	355,681	<b>1</b> 3.3%
Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	28,949	<b>↓</b> -0.2%	Atlanta GA, US (ATL)	3,848,387	-1.0%	Shanghai, CN (PVG)	310,577	9.1%
Dallas/Fort Worth TX, US (DFW)	26,560	<b>↓</b> -1.0%	Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	3,343,554	<b>1</b> 3.8%	Incheon, KR (ICN)	224,760	7.4%
Beijing, CN (PEK)	25,790	0.1%	Tokyo, JP (HND)	3,183,871	-3.4%	Anchorage AK, US (ANC)	207,844	<b>1</b> 5.9%
Denver CO, US (DEN)	23,165	<b>1</b> 2.2%	Hong Kong, CN (HKG)	3,057,000	-1.0%	Dubai, AE (DXB)	202,233	-2.9%
Charlotte NC, US (CLT)	22,073	0.3%	Incheon, KR (ICN)	2,998,898	<b>1</b> 8.2%	Louisville KY, US (SDF)	200,249	12.1%
Shanghai, CN (PVG)	21,185	3.0%	New Delhi, IN (DEL)	2,924,891	12.6%	Taipei, CN (TPE)	187,144	10.4%
Guangzhou, CN (CAN)	19,833	0.5%	Shanghai, CN (PVG)	2,911,157	0.3%	Beijing, CN (PEK)	180,781	<b>1</b> 8.3%
New Delhi, IN (DEL)	19,670	12.1%	London, GB (LHR)	2,903,881	1.1%	Tokyo, JP (NRT)	177,032	<b>1.7%</b>
Jakarta, ID (CGK)	19,500	7.5%	Bangkok, TH (BKK)	2,880,717	3.8%	Singapore, SG (SIN)	175,600	10.7%
Amsterdam, NL (AMS)	19,193	4.5%	Chicago IL, US (ORD)	2,845,294	<b>1</b> 2.4%	Miami FL, US (MIA)	174,791	1.5%
London, GB (LHR)	19,135	<b>1</b> 2.5%	Guangzhou, CN (CAN)	2,798,197	<b>1</b> 0.7%	Doha, QA (DOH)	168,156	10.5%
Tokyo, JP (HND)	19,046	<b>↓</b> -0.2%	Singapore, SG (SIN)	2,652,000	<b>1</b> 0.9%	Chicago IL, US (ORD)	163,292	<b>1</b> 2.5%
Toronto ON, CA (YYZ)	18,958	2.2%	Istanbul, TR (IST)	2,630,257	30.3%	Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	160,064	7.3%

Note: Total scheduled and non-scheduled services

In terms of aircraft departures, the Top 15 airports reported an increase of +1.6% YoY. Declines were continually observed in some major airports in North America. Tokyo also posted a slight decrease, due to flight disruption caused by the snowstorm. New Delhi recorded the highest growth with a double-digit increase of +12.1%.

In terms of passengers, the Top 15 airports reported a growth of +2.9% YoY. Atlanta marked the 3rd consecutive month of decline, and became 3rd after Dubai. Beijing retained the 1st place albeit with a decline of -0.4%. Istanbul posted a significant increase of +30.3%, owing to the comparison with low traffic in the same period of 2017 impacted by the heavy snowfall.

In terms of **freight**, the Top 15 airports reported a growth of **+7.2%** YoY. All the Top 15 airports recorded an increase, except for **Dubai** with a decline of **-2.9%**. **Hong Kong** remained at **1st** with a solid increase of **+9.9%**. A few airports posted double-digit growth, and **Chicago** remained to record the strongest growth by **+12.5%** 

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

#### JAN 2018: +3.8% YoY in terms of RPK for the Top 15

In terms of RPK, the Top 15 airline groups accounted for 46.4% of world total RPK in January 2018, and grew by +3.8% YoY. This growth was -0.8 percentage points lower than the world average on scheduled services. All the Top 15 airline groups posted YoY increases, except for Delta with flat growth.

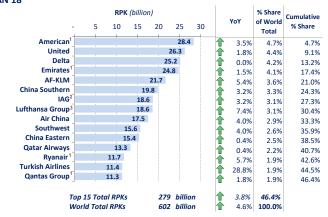
American ranked 1st and rose by +3.5%. United retained the 2nd place with a growth of +1.8%. Delta reported the same traffic level compared to a year ago, and its international traffic was down by -2.0%. Southwest remained at 10th and grew by +4.0%.

Emirates remained at 4th with a moderate YoY growth of +1.5%. After experiencing declines in the last few months of 2017, Qatar Airways started to recover and traffic rose by +0.4% YoY.

AF-KLM and IAG remained at 5th and 7th with a growth of +5.4% and +3.2%, respectively. Lufthansa ranked 8th and recorded the second highest growth within the Top 15 by +7.4%. Due to the comparison with low traffic caused by the weather related flight cancellation in the same period of last year, Turkish Airlines posted the highest growth by +28.8%.

Similar to other regions, major airlines in Asia/Pacific posted moderate growth. China Southern and Air China remained at the position of 6th and 9th, with +3.2% and +4.0% increases, respectively. Qantas ranked 15th with a growth of +1.8%.

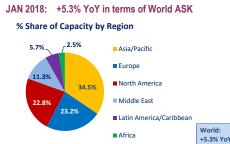
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(Source: ICAO, airlines' websites)

Note: Total scheduled and non-scheduled services

### **CAPACITY BY REGION** (ICAO Statistical Regions)



(Source: ICAO, IATA, OAG) <u>Note</u>: Total scheduled services



All regions, posted an expansion in capacity in January 2018 with a +5.3% YoY increase in capacity worldwide. Asia/Pacific continued to record the fastest capacity expansion, and was the only region growing faster than the world average. Africa experienced the biggest slowdown in capacity growth.

Asia/Pacific accounted for the biggest share of the world capacity offered, followed by Europe and North America.

<sup>\*</sup> Embarked Passengers \*\* Loaded and Unloaded Freight inTonnes 1. ICAO estimates 2. British Airways, Iberia, and Vueling 3. Lufthansa Airlines, Eurowings, SWISS, Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Sun Express, and Lufthansa Cargo