

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OCT 2020: Air Transport Monthly Monitor

World Results and Analyses for AUG 2020. Total scheduled services (domestic and international).

http://www.icao.int/sustainability/Pages/Air-1	affic-Monitor.aspx			Air Transport Bureau E-mail: ecd@icao.int
GLOBAL KEY FIGURES	AUG 2020 (versus AUG 2019)			OUTLOOK* - SEP 2020 (versus SEP 2019)
	<b>RPK </b> 7-75.3% <b>ASK</b>	-63.8% <b>FTK ▼</b> -12.6%	<b>LF</b> : 58.5% ▲ +0.6 pt	<b>ASK</b> ▼ -60.7% * Source OAG

## PASSENGER TRAFFIC

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

World passenger traffic fell by -75.3% YoY in August 2020, +4.5 percentage points up from the decline in the previous month. Air travel demand in all regions improved modestly with Asia/Pacific showing the fastest recovery while the Middle East being the weakest performer due to the sluggish international traffic. Domestic travel remained as the main contributor to recovery globally with significant improvements in major markets, particularly China and Russia Federation; the latter also became the first to rebound back to pre-pandemic level.



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

**International passenger traffic fell by -88.3% YoY in August 2020**, +3.6 percentage points up from the decline in the previous month. International air travel demand globally remained severely curtailed at less than 10% of the 2019 level, except for Europe which showed increases in intra-regional travel and recovered to around 20%. The international tourist arrivals remained stagnant and is expected to follow a similar trend as international passenger traffic.



## FREIGHT TRAFFIC

#### Freight Tonne-Kilometres - FTK

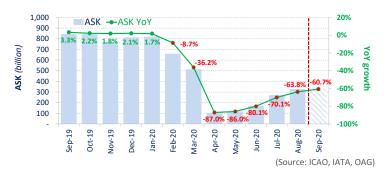
World freight traffic reported a decline of -12.6% YoY in August 2020, +0.9 percentage point up from the fall in the previous month. For the first time since May, all regions posted improvements in air cargo recovery; however, the overall upward trend has eased slightly due to the slowdown in certain major markets. Pace of recovery by region differs at varying degrees, with Africa continued to demonstrate more resilience with stronger demand and became the only region recording positive growth. Significant upswing was seen in the Middle East while the recovery stalled in Asia/Pacific. Economic activities are expected to recover with stabilizing industrial production and export orders, which will support the recovery in air cargo demand in the coming months.

## CAPACITY

#### Available Seat-Kilometres - ASK

**Capacity worldwide fell by -63.8% YoY in August 2020**, +6.3 percentage points up from the decline in the previous month (-70.1%).

Contraction in world capacity is expected to ease in September to -60.7% down YoY, as airlines continue to resume more operations.

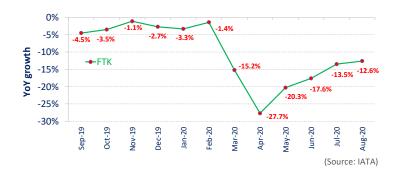


#### Load Factor - LF

The passenger Load Factor reached 58.5% in August 2020, +0.6 percentage point higher than the previous month.

As recovery in air travel demand was still slower than capacity rebound, the August LF was -27.2 percentage points lower than the rate in the same period of 2019.





ACRONYMS: 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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(Source: ACI)

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

AUG 2020: -28.8%, -41.5%, and +1.9% 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)	23,696	-41.5%	Guangzhou, CN (CAN)	2,304,846	-30.0%	Memphis TN, US (MEM)	380,582	4.6%
Chicago IL, US (ORD)	23,000	-44.6%	Chengdu, CN (CTU)	2,190,914	4 -13.3%	Hong Kong SAR, CN (HKG)	370,000	-2.2%
Dallas/Fort Worth TX, US (DFW)	22,401	-32.1%	Shenzhen, CN (SZX)	1,999,460	4 -14.8%	Shanghai, CN (PVG)	298,310	2.1%
Denver CO, US (DEN)	19,934	-31.6%	Kunming, CN (KMG)	1,916,054	4 -12.7%	Anchorage AK, US (ANC)	284,367	25.4%
Guangzhou, CN (CAN)	18,593	-12.1%	Xi'An, CN (XIY)	1,783,064	4 -18.9%	Louisville KY, US (SDF)	230,031	-1.5%
Charlotte NC, US (CLT)	16,464	-33.4%	Beijing, CN (PEK)	1,777,309	4 -60.6%	Incheon, KR (ICN)	225,124	2.5%
Shanghai, CN (PVG)	16,347	-23.0%	Shanghai, CN (PVG)	1,698,382	49.4% -49	Taipei, CN (TPE)	206,414	12.9%
Shenzhen, CN (SZX)	15,723	-0.5%	Shanghai, CN (SHA)	1,680,578	4 -12.8%	Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	184,436	<b>9</b> .1%
Chengdu, CN (CTU)	15,193	-4.0%	Dallas/Fort Worth TX, US (DFW)	1,633,377	4 -52.5%	Doha, QA (DOH)	183,828	<b>1</b> 5.6%
Kunming, CN (KMG)	15,006	-5.4%	Hangzhou, CN (HGH)	1,576,986	4 -11.5%	Miami FL, US (MIA)	183,361	11.8%
Long Beach CA, US (LGB)	14,857	-2.9%	Atlanta GA, US (ATL)	1,497,570	4 -69.7%	Chicago IL, US (ORD)	168,976	15.7%
Beijing, CN (PEK)	14,772	-42.8%	Denver CO, US (DEN)	1,492,841	4 -53.8%	Frankfurt, DE (FRA)	152,835	-6.4%
Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	14,291	-53.7%	Jeju, KR (CJU)	1,163,549	4 -20.0%	Tokyo, JP (NRT)	149,954	-10.9%
Xi'An, CN (XIY)	14,085	-8.4%	Moscow, RU (DME)	1,147,752	4 -27.4%	Guangzhou, CN (CAN)	146,352	-4.9%
Anchorage AK, US (ANC)	13,919	-17.2%	Chicago IL, US (ORD)	1,140,739	4 -71.4%	Dubai, AE (DXB)	135,384	-33.3%

Note: Total scheduled and non-scheduled services

In terms of aircraft departures, all the Top 15 airports reported declines with a combined fall of -28.8% YoY. The list was comprised of eight US and seven Chinese airports. Atlanta ranked 1st followed by Chicago and Dallas/Fort Worth. Most Chinese airports in the Top 15 held median positions and showed smaller declines, with Shenzhen recording the smallest decline of -0.5%.

In terms of passengers, all the Top 15 airports posted declines with a total fall of -41.5% YoY. The list continued to be dominated by Chinese and US airports. The Top 8 were only Chinese airports with Guangzhou retaining the 1st position. Similar to departures, overall smaller declines were observed in Chinese airports. Moscow made it to the Top 15 owing to the bullish domestic traffic growth.

In terms of freight, the Top 15 airports reported a YoY increase of +1.9%. This was the third consecutive growth since June, and over half of the Top 15 posted YoY increase with the strongest growth recorded by Anchorage (+25.4%). Memphis remained at 1st growing at +4.6%, followed by Hong Kong (-2.2%) and Shanghai (+2.1%).

## TOP 15 AIRLINE GROUPS (Ranked by RPK) AUG 2020: -66.9% YoY in terms of RPK for the Top 15

In terms of RPK, the Top 15 airline groups accounted for 58.1% of the world's total RPK in August 2020 and declined by -66.9% YoY. This decline was 8.4 percentage points smaller than the fall in world's average RPK, with all airlines in the Top 15 posting contractions.

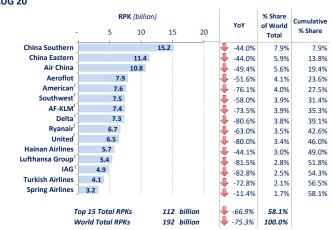
The Top 15 list was the same as the previous month, dominated by airlines in China, US and Europe, with few movements in the rankings due to the diverging recovery pace by country.

China Southern, China Eastern and Air China remained at Top 3, with traffic recovered to over 50% of the 2019 level. Two other Chinese airlines, Hainan Airlines and Spring Airlines have slipped down the list to 11th and 15th, respectively, as major airlines in other regions continued to recover. Nevertheless, Spring Airlines recorded the fastest recovery with traffic returning to 88.6% of the 2019 level.

Both American and Southwest fell 1 position to 5th and 6th, overtaken by Aeroflot. Delta and United continued to record relatively slower recovery with traffic at around merely 20% of the 2019 level, and ranked 8th and 10th, respectively.

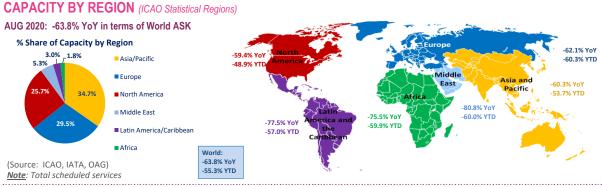
Airlines in Europe recorded gradual improvements with more noticeable increase recorded by Aeroflot, which ranked 2 positions up to 4th and recovered to almost 50% of the 2019 traffic level. AF-KLM and Ryanair went up to 7th and 9th, respectively. Other airlines in the Top 15 improved modestly.

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(Source: ICAO, airlines' websites)

Note: Total scheduled and non-scheduled services



\* Embarked Passengers \*\* Loaded and Unloaded Freight inTonnes 1, ICAO estimates

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Worldwide capacity contracted by -63.8% YoY in August 2020.

Capacity improvements were observed in all regions with a relatively stronger increase in Europe where lockdowns and cross-border travel restrictions eased during the summer period.

North America and Asia/Pacific posted the fastest recovery in capacity, at around 60% below the pre-COVID-19 level.