ICAO

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NOV 2015: Air Transport Monthly Monitor

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

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

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

GLOBAL KEY FIGURES

SEP 2015 *(versus SEP 2014)*

RPK ▲ +7.3% **ASK** ▲ +6.6% **FTK** ▲ +1% **LF**: 80.7% ▲ +0.4 pts

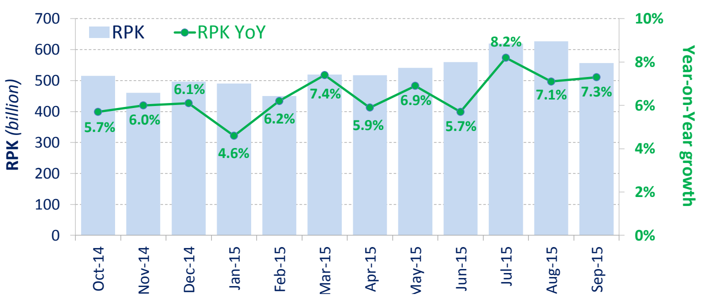
OUTLOOK* - OCT 2015 *(versus OCT 2014)*

ASK ▲ +6.5% * Source OAG

PASSENGER TRAFFIC

Revenue Passenger-Kilometres - RPK

World passenger traffic followed a similar growth trend as in the previous month, and rose by +7.3% YoY in September 2015. The growth has been bolstered by significant increases in domestic traffic mainly in India, China, Russia and the United States. International traffic grew in all regions YoY, with Asia Pacific growing by around +6.8%, Europe (+7.1%) and North America (+4.1%). The increase in overall passenger traffic is mainly due to stimulation of incremental demand by air carriers taking advantage of the near 50% lower Jet fuel price compared to a year ago.

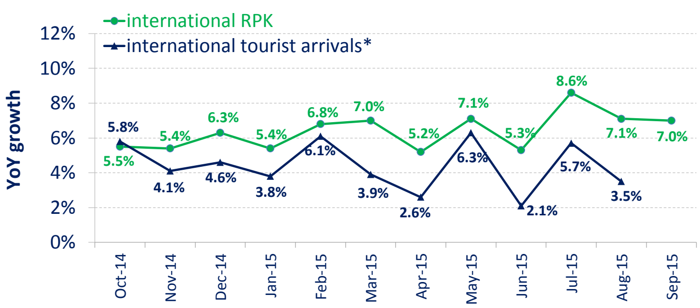


(Source: ICAO, IATA, OAG)

International Traffic vs. Tourist Arrivals

International passenger traffic grew by 7.0% in September 2015 compared to the same period last year, and is similar to the growth in August 2015. International travel demand remains strong in most of the regions.

International tourist arrivals* are expected to follow a similar monthly trend.



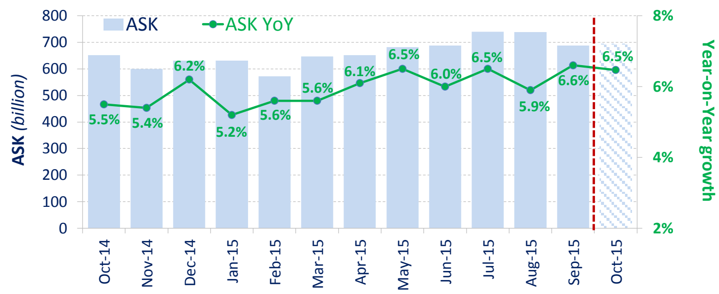
*UNWTO Definition (Source: IATA, UNWTO)

CAPACITY

Available Seat-Kilometres - ASK

Capacity worldwide increased by +6.6% in September 2015 YoY, +0.7 percentage points higher than the August 2015 capacity growth (+5.9%).

The expansion of capacity is expected to follow a similar trend in October 2015, in response to the passenger traffic demand.

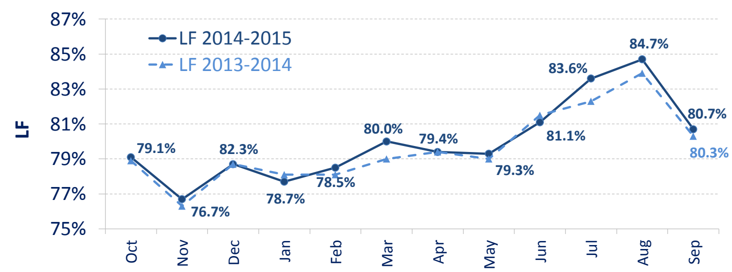


(Source: ICAO, IATA, OAG)

Load Factor - LF

The passenger Load Factor reached 80.7% in September 2015, +0.4 percentage points higher than the LF recorded in the same period last year.

Compared to August 2015, international LF declined significantly due to seasonal impact and traffic growth not keeping pace with capacity expansion. This however, was offset to some extent by strong improvement in domestic LF, resulting in an overall net decline of 4.0 percentage points in LF.



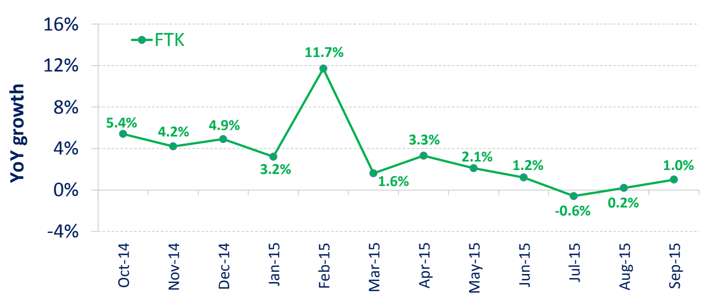
(Source: IATA)

FREIGHT TRAFFIC

Freight Tonne-Kilometres - FTK

World freight traffic increased marginally by +1.0% in September 2015 compared to the same period a year ago. Freight traffic began to climb, though growth remained weak in some major cargo regions like Asia/Pacific. Middle East, however, recorded a +7.5% growth, which contributed positively to the overall world freight performance. Freight capacity expansion outpaced the traffic growth and increased by +5.6%, resulting in a low freight load factor (43.2%).

Air cargo demand followed the trend of world trade development, which has been weak especially in key export economies. Overall the momentum in the cargo markets remains flat.



(Source: IATA)

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

SEP 2015: +1.5%, +6.7%, and +2.0% YoY in terms of aircraft departures, passengers and freight for the Top 15

SEP 15

Airports (ranking by number of departures)	Departures	YoY
Chicago IL, US (ORD)	36,780	↓ -0.4%
Atlanta GA, US (ATL)	36,234	↑ 1.7%
Dallas/Fort Worth TX, US (DFW)	27,999	↓ -1.1%
Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	27,327	↑ 5.4%
Beijing, CN (PEK)	24,057	↓ -1.9%
Las Vegas NV, US (LAS)	22,428	↑ 0.4%
Denver CO, US (DEN)	22,235	↓ -7.5%
Charlotte NC, US (CLT)	21,909	↓ -0.1%
Frankfurt, DE (FRA)	21,110	↓ -0.6%
Paris, FR (CDG)	21,015	↑ 16.1%
Amsterdam, NL (AMS)	20,934	↑ 2.2%
Istanbul, TR (IST)	20,654	↑ 7.4%
London, GB (LHR)	20,329	↑ 1.6%
Houston TX, US (IAH)	19,604	↓ -3.3%
Shanghai, CN (PVG)	19,057	↑ 11.1%

Airports (ranking by number of passengers)	Passengers*	YoY
Atlanta GA, US (ATL)	4,160,614	↑ 7.4%
Beijing, CN (PEK)	3,738,261	↑ 2.7%
London, GB (LHR)	3,384,608	↑ 2.9%
Tokyo, JP (HND)	3,378,360	↑ 3.1%
Chicago IL, US (ORD)	3,276,063	↑ 12.7%
Dubai, AE (DXB)	3,216,327	↑ 8.3%
Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	3,013,529	↑ 8.1%
Paris, FR (CDG)	2,964,021	↑ 21.1%
Frankfurt, DE (FRA)	2,902,059	↓ -1.3%
Istanbul, TR (IST)	2,828,697	↑ 8.5%
Amsterdam, NL (AMS)	2,734,519	↑ 5.4%
Hong Kong, CN (HKG)	2,667,000	↑ 6.3%
Dallas/Fort Worth TX, US (DFW)	2,632,758	↑ 0.4%
Shanghai, CN (PVG)	2,534,687	↑ 15.8%
New York NY, US (JFK)	2,375,404	↑ 4.6%

Airports (ranking by tonnes of freight)	Freight**	YoY
Hong Kong, CN (HKG)	368,000	↑ 1.1%
Memphis TN, US (MEM)	362,214	↑ 5.7%
Shanghai, CN (PVG)	270,406	↑ 0.2%
Anchorage AK, US (ANC)	210,391	↑ 1.9%
Dubai, AE (DXB)	207,315	↑ 2.4%
Incheon, KR (ICN)	207,091	↑ 3.2%
Louisville KY, US (SDF)	192,183	↑ 6.6%
Tokyo, JP (NRT)	172,574	↓ -2.5%
Beijing, CN (PEK)	168,527	↓ -0.4%
Miami FL, US (MIA)	161,014	↑ 1.2%
Frankfurt, DE (FRA)	160,238	↓ -5.2%
Paris, FR (CDG)	159,200	↑ 13.6%
Taipei, CN (TPE)	158,294	↓ -7.3%
Singapore, SG (SIN)	155,100	↑ 4.9%
Los Angeles CA, US (LAX)	148,878	↑ 5.4%

__Note__: Total scheduled and non-scheduled services

(Source: ACI)

In terms of **aircraft departures,** the Top 15 airports reported a growth of **+1.5%** YoY. The largest YoY growth was recorded by **Paris (+16.1%)**, owing to the low traffic volume in the same period last year when the Air France strike took place. **Denver** posted a decline of **-7.5%,** due to the significant decrease in operations of Air Taxi and General Aviation.

In terms of **passengers**, the Top 15 airports reported a growth of **+6.7%** YoY. All Top 15 airports posted an increase, except for **Frankfurt (-1.3%)**, due to the strikes of Lufthansa and Germanwings at the beginning of the month. Most airports in Asia/Pacific have shown solid growth, and **Shanghai** posted the 2nd highest growth of **+15.8%**.

In terms of **freight**, the Top 15 airports reported a slight increase of **+2.0%** YoY. Air freight markets remain relatively weak compared to passenger traffic. **Hong Kong** ranked **1st** with a modest growth of **+1.1%**. Some key export economies have been impacted by the weak trade development. **Taipei** posted the largest decrease of **-7.3%**.

TOP 15 AIRLINE GROUPS (Ranked by RPK)

SEP 2015: +8.0% YoY in terms of RPK for the Top 15

In terms of RPK, the Top 15 airline groups accounted for 47.6% of world total in September 2015, and grew by +8.0% YoY. This growth was slightly higher than the world average on scheduled services (+7.3%). All the Top 15 airline groups, except for Lufthansa Group, posted a growth in September 2015.

American grew strongly by **+7.2%** YoY in RPK, and improved 1 place from September 2014 to **1st. Delta** came **2nd** with a lower growth (**+2.4%**), and **United** has been stable at **3rd** place.

For the European airlines, **IAG** ranked 2 positions up to **4th** with a robust growth of **+13.9%**. **Lufthansa Group** posted a decline of **-0.3%** YoY, and ranked 1 position down to **5th**. **AF-KLM** ranked **6th,** and there is only a small difference in RPK compared to Lufthansa. **Turkish Airlines** continued to expand strongly by **+12.6%**, and remained at **12th** as in September last year.

Three airline groups in China posted double-digit YoY growth. Compared to last year, **China Southern**, **Air China** and **China Eastern** remained at the same place of **8th**, **10th**, and **11th**.

Emirates posted a relatively lower growth by +4.3%, and ranked 2 positions down to **7th**.

SEP 15

	RPK *(billion)*	YoY	% Share of World Total	Cumulative % Share
American	29.1	↑ 7.2%	5.2%	5.2%
Delta	27.9	↑ 2.4%	5.0%	10.2%
United	27.1	↑ 1.4%	4.9%	15.1%
IAG[1]	21.4	↑ 13.9%	3.8%	18.9%
Lufthansa Group[2]	20.65	↓ -0.3%	3.7%	22.6%
AF-KLM	20.64	↑ 24.3%	3.7%	26.3%
Emirates[3]	20.5	↑ 4.3%	3.7%	30.0%
China Southern	16.1	↑ 13.3%	2.9%	32.9%
Southwest	14.8	↑ 11.4%	2.7%	35.6%
Air China	14.4	↑ 11.6%	2.6%	38.1%
China Eastern	12.3	↑ 16.5%	2.2%	40.4%
Turkish Airlines	10.8	↑ 12.6%	1.9%	42.3%
Qantas Group	10.0	↑ 5.5%	1.8%	44.1%
Air Canada	9.8	↑ 10.1%	1.8%	45.9%
Singapore Airlines Group	9.7	↑ 0.4%	1.7%	47.6%
Top 15 Total RPKs	*265 billion*	↑ *8.0%*	***47.6%***	
World Total RPKs	*557 billion*	↑ 7.3%	**100.0%**	

(Source: ICAO, airlines' websites)

__Note__: Total scheduled and non-scheduled services

CAPACITY BY REGION *(ICAO Statistical Regions)*

SEP 2015

All regions posted positive growth in capacity in September 2015 YoY with a **+6.6% increase in capacity worldwide**, similar to the YTD 2015 growth.

Middle East recorded the highest capacity increase among all regions, contributed to by the continual expansion of major carriers in the region. Economic recovery in **Europe** and **North America** has supported the air travel demand, and carriers in the two regions continually expanded the capacity, with **+7.0%** and **+4.4%** increase, respectively. **Asia/Pacific** grew by **+6.6%**, with strong increase in domestic markets in India and China. **Latin America/Caribbean** grew at **+5.8%**, in line with the traffic demand of the region. **Africa**, posted the weakest growth among all regions by **+3.0%**, reflecting the economic condition of the region.

	SEP 15			YTD		
	ASK	%	YoY	ASK *(billion)*	%	YoY
Europe	204	30%	↑ 7.0%	1,656	27%	↑ 4.5%
Asia/Pacific	201	29%	↑ 6.6%	1,806	30%	↑ 7.0%
North America	158	23%	↑ 4.4%	1,473	24%	↑ 4.0%
Middle East	70	10%	↑ 12.4%	606	10%	↑ 14.7%
Latin America	36	5%	↑ 5.8%	329	5%	↑ 5.9%
Africa	20	3%	↑ 3.0%	167	3%	↑ 0.5%
World	**688**	**100%**	↑ **6.6%**	**6,037**	**100%**	↑ **6.0%**

(Source: ICAO, IATA, OAG)

***Note**: Total scheduled services*

* Embarked Passengers ** Loaded and Unloaded Freight inTonnes 1. IAG: British Airways, Iberia, and Vueling 2. Lufthansa Group: Lufthansa Airlines, Germanwings, SWISS, Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Sun Express, and Lufthansa Cargo
3.. ICAO estimates

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