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Domestic aviation activity July 2026

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Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community.

We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their Elders both past and present.

FOREWORD

This report provides an overview of domestic (including charter) commercial aviation activity in Australia for the month of July 2026.

The data covers revenue passengers carried by Australian-registered operators of scheduled Regular Public Transport (RPT) services over Australian flight stages and fixed-wing charter operators. These estimates include passengers carried between domestic airports on international flights operated by these carriers. The passengers carried refer to traffic on board by stages.

Estimates of passengers and aircraft movements for charter aviation are included in this publication, where BITRE confidentiality standards are met.

Individual routes shown are restricted to those with an average exceeding 8,000 passengers per month over the previous 6 months where 2 or more airlines operate in competition.

Information on the total network for the month of July 2026 and on the RPT network for the month of July 2026 is presented on page 2, with estimates for the year ended July 2026 presented on page 3.

Detailed information on individual routes can be found in the RPT summary pages 4-13 of this publication. For the month of July 2026, there are 62 individual routes published.

The top 10 airports in terms of RPT passenger movements are shown on page 14.

Data on domestic RPT cargo movements at the top 5 cargo airports are provided on page 15. The table includes cargo carried on passenger flights operated by the Qantas group (including Jetstar), Virgin Australia, Airnorth and Skippers as well as the cargo carried by dedicated freighter aircraft operated by Qantas Freight and Team Global Express (formerly Toll).

Commercial airline cargo operations commenced at Western Sydney International Airport on 26 July 2026. Cargo movement data at Western Sydney International Airport in July 2026 is not published in this release due to the above data confidentiality standards.

The long-term trends for the top 10 competitive RPT routes are presented graphically on pages 16-25.

Domestic RPT passenger movements at regional airports are shown on pages 26-27.

Tables providing estimates of domestic charter aviation activity are shown on page 28. BITRE confidentiality standards restrict publication of detailed estimates for individual Australian airports, with the exception of Perth Airport.

A list of definitions can be found on page 29.

This report was prepared by the Aviation Statistics Section of the Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics with data provided by airlines.

Estimates are included where data were not available and data presented in this publication may contain revisions to previously published data.

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals, and in percentage changes which are derived from figures prior to rounding.

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HIGHLIGHTS

There were 5.76 million passengers carried on Australian domestic commercial aviation (including charter operations) in July 2026. There is virtually no change compared with July 2025. This is also an increase of 1.0% on pre-COVID July 2019 passenger numbers (5.70 million).

5.33 million passengers were carried on Regular Public Transport (RPT) flights in July 2026 (excluding charter operations), a decrease of 0.3% compared to July 2025.

For the month of July 2026, there were 52.1 thousand RPT aircraft trips, a decrease of 1.4% on July 2025.

For the year ending July 2026, there were 60.73 million RPT passengers, an increase of 1.8% on the year ending July 2025.

RPT revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) performed were 6.58 billion for the month, compared with 6.61 billion in July 2025 (down 0.5%).

Capacity, measured by available seat kilometres (ASKs), decreased to 7.90 billion in July 2026 compared to 7.92 billion in July 2025 (down 0.2%).

The industry wide load factor (RPKs/ASKs) decreased from 83.4% in July 2025 to 83.2% in July 2026. The highest load factor (93.3%) was recorded on the Brisbane – Launceston route while the lowest load factor (50.7%) was recorded on the Geraldton – Perth route.

For the month of July 2026, Melbourne – Sydney was Australia's busiest RPT route with 665.4 thousand passengers, followed by Brisbane – Sydney with 384.5 thousand passengers and Brisbane – Melbourne with 330.2 thousand passengers.

Sydney Kingsford Smith was Australia's busiest domestic airport with 2.20 million passenger movements in July 2026, followed by Melbourne with 2.09 million passenger movements and Brisbane with 1.60 million passenger movements.

Total cargo movements at Australian airports on domestic RPT flights were 26.7 thousand tonnes in July 2026, a decrease of 5.9% compared with July 2025.

In July 2026, there were 2.35 million domestic passenger movements through regional airports. There was virtually no change compared to July 2025. Out of the top 50 regional airports, the largest increase was recorded at Kalgoorlie Airport (up 18.4% on July 2025), while the strongest decrease was recorded at Moranbah Airport (down 15.5% on July 2025).

Fixed-wing charter operators carried 432.2 thousand passengers in July 2026, an increase of 4.9% compared with July 2025. There were 7.2 thousand charter aircraft trips in July 2026, an increase of 4.4% compared with July 2025. Perth Airport accounted for 35.7% of all charter passengers in Australia.

TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of monthly commercial aviation activity

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	5.76	5.76	0.0
Aircraft trips (000s)	59.8	59.3	-0.7

Note: Regular Public Transport and charter aviation activity
Helicopter, joy flights and sightseeing charter flights not included.

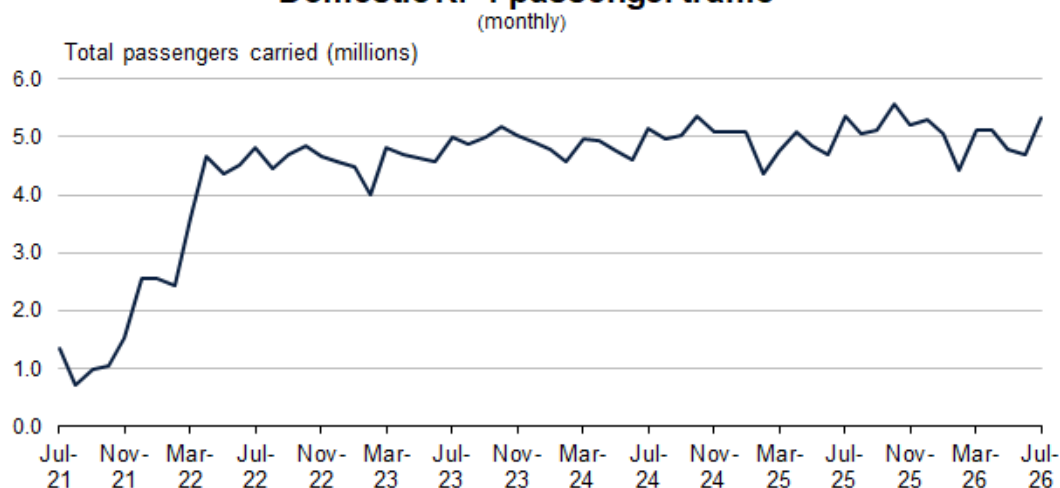
RPT network

Summary of monthly RPT activity

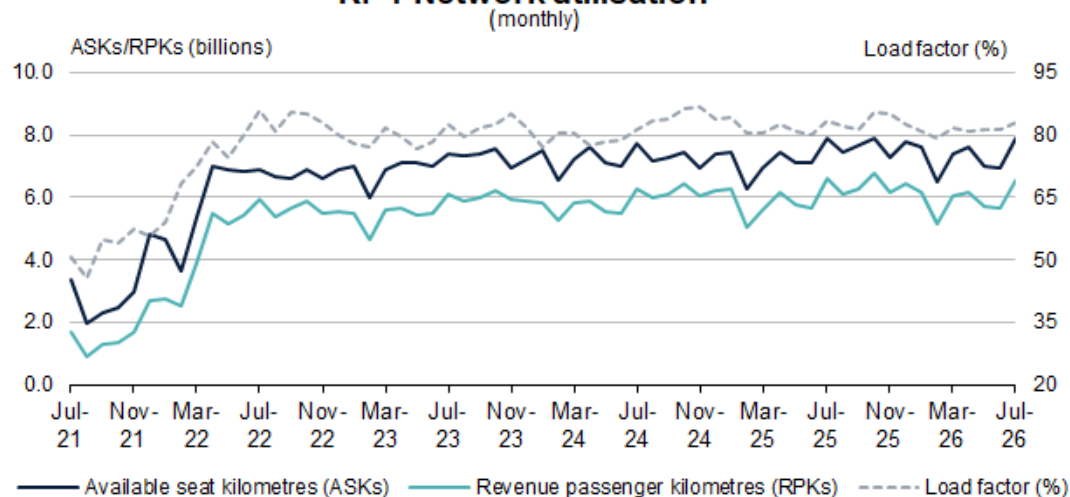
	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	5.35	5.33	-0.3
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	6.61	6.58	-0.5
Available seats (millions)	6.58	6.55	-0.5
Available seat kilometres (billions)	7.92	7.90	-0.2
Load factor (%)	83.4	83.2	-0.2 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	52.9	52.1	-1.4

* percentage point difference

Domestic RPT passenger traffic



RPT Network utilisation



TOTAL NETWORK

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	63.98	65.32	2.1
Aircraft trips (000s)	673.9	679.5	0.8

Note: Regular Public Transport and charter aviation activity
Helicopter, joy flights and sightseeing charter flights not included.

RPT NETWORK

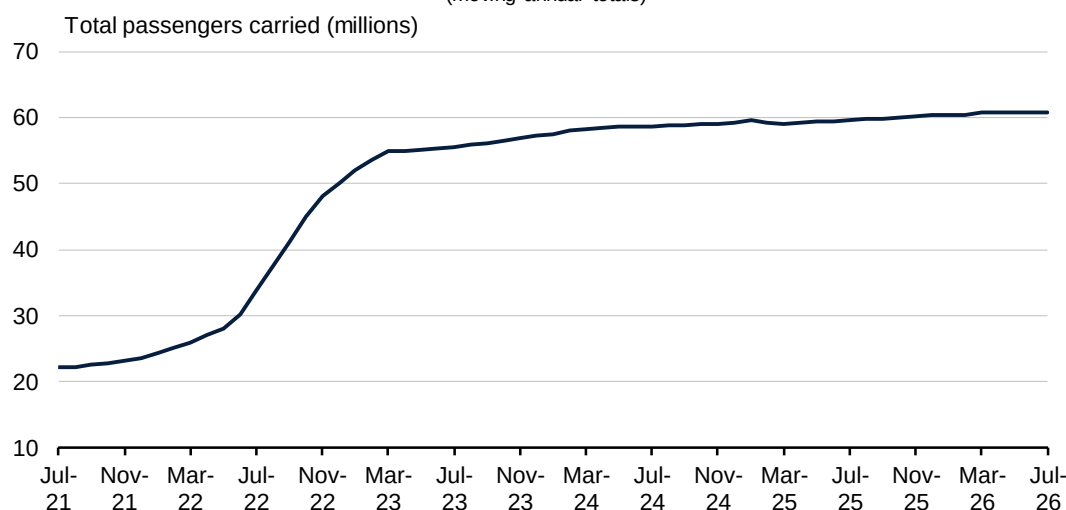
Summary of annual RPT activity

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	59.66	60.73	1.8
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	71.94	73.23	1.8
Available seats (millions)	73.38	75.23	2.5
Available seat kilometres (billions)	86.56	89.06	2.9
Load factor (%)	83.1	83.2	0.1 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	599.8	602.1	0.4

* percentage point difference

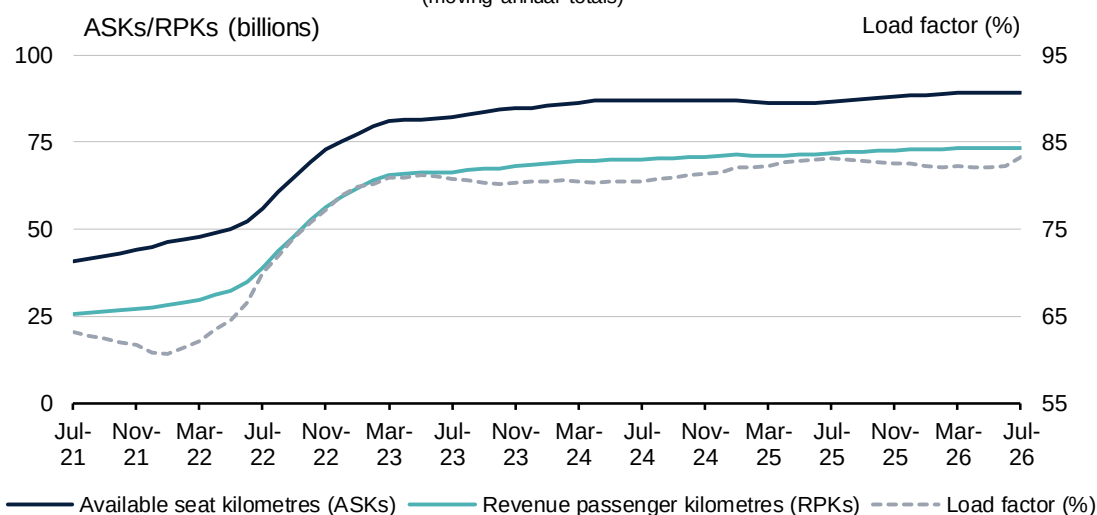
Domestic RPT passenger traffic

(moving annual totals)



RPT Network utilisation

(moving annual totals)



TOP COMPETITIVE ROUTES

Table 1: Passengers carried (000s) — annual activity

	City-Pair	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	8 084.1	8 064.3	-0.2
2	Brisbane - Sydney	4 363.7	4 424.8	1.4
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	3 572.0	3 699.9	3.6
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	2 472.0	2 608.6	5.5
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	2 331.1	2 418.8	3.8
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	2 106.8	2 216.6	5.2
7	Melbourne - Perth	2 078.3	2 085.9	0.4
8	Adelaide - Sydney	1 895.8	1 906.7	0.6
9	Perth - Sydney	1 727.2	1 735.2	0.5
10	Hobart - Melbourne	1 428.5	1 454.5	1.8
11	Brisbane - Cairns	1 307.8	1 303.8	-0.3
12	Brisbane - Perth	1 136.3	1 137.0	0.1
13	Brisbane - Townsville	966.7	1 027.7	6.3
14	Canberra - Melbourne	983.7	946.9	-3.7
15	Adelaide - Brisbane	863.9	912.6	5.6
16	Cairns - Sydney	919.2	909.1	-1.1
17	Launceston - Melbourne	876.8	893.0	1.8
18	Cairns - Melbourne	862.8	853.3	-1.1
19	Hobart - Sydney	830.1	838.5	1.0
20	Brisbane - Mackay	785.2	828.8	5.6
21	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	787.8	823.3	4.5
22	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	729.8	774.7	6.1
23	Adelaide - Perth	715.3	732.1	2.3
24	Karratha - Perth	651.2	722.2	10.9
25	Brisbane - Canberra	647.3	672.2	3.9
26	Brisbane - Rockhampton	608.2	605.7	-0.4
27	Canberra - Sydney	627.1	577.3	-7.9
28	Brisbane - Newcastle	520.2	528.7	1.6
29	Perth - Port Hedland	480.6	503.6	4.8
30	Ballina - Sydney	501.4	471.5	-6.0
31	Melbourne - Newcastle	468.2	465.9	-0.5
32	Newman - Perth	431.4	444.6	3.1
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	376.4	443.1	17.7
34	Broome - Perth	365.8	377.4	3.2
35	Launceston - Sydney	350.3	360.1	2.8
36	Brisbane - Darwin	349.5	350.6	0.3
37	Brisbane - Hobart	316.9	330.7	4.3
38	Adelaide - Gold Coast	281.0	298.4	6.2
39	Darwin - Melbourne	300.1	294.9	-1.7
40	Brisbane - Proserpine	289.3	292.8	1.2
41	Hamilton Island - Sydney	251.7	228.1	-9.4
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	220.4	217.5	-1.3
43	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	202.3	208.5	3.1
44	Adelaide - Canberra	194.1	195.9	0.9
45	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	163.2	190.6	16.7
46	Brisbane - Emerald	188.8	190.0	0.6
47	Dubbo - Sydney	170.8	184.8	8.2
48	Canberra - Gold Coast	173.5	181.0	4.3
49	Darwin - Perth	191.0	179.6	-6.0
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	163.6	173.8	6.2

continued

Table 1: (continued) Passengers carried (000s) — annual activity

	City-Pair	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
51	Port Macquarie - Sydney	164.4	170.2	3.5
52	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	166.6	169.6	1.8
53	Albury - Sydney	154.9	163.0	5.2
54	Brisbane - Launceston	153.7	160.0	4.0
55	Melbourne - Mildura	150.4	150.7	0.2
56	Brisbane - Mount Isa	152.8	150.5	-1.5
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	140.5	140.6	0.1
58	Geraldton - Perth	119.9	122.9	2.5
59	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	115.2	120.8	4.8
60	Adelaide - Alice Springs	104.9	102.6	-2.2
61	Orange - Sydney	85.4	101.0	18.2
Total domestic network		59 659.1	60 735.0	1.8

Table 2: Passengers carried (000s) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	681.6	665.4	-2.4
2	Brisbane - Sydney	388.8	384.5	-1.1
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	326.6	330.2	1.1
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	228.4	226.9	-0.7
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	198.7	203.0	2.2
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	193.0	192.9	-0.1
7	Melbourne - Perth	184.3	167.8	-9.0
8	Adelaide - Sydney	159.2	162.8	2.2
9	Perth - Sydney	143.6	145.8	1.5
10	Brisbane - Cairns	124.1	123.6	-0.4
11	Hobart - Melbourne	117.6	114.6	-2.6
12	Brisbane - Townsville	92.7	100.4	8.4
13	Brisbane - Perth	97.7	97.2	-0.6
14	Cairns - Sydney	95.3	96.8	1.6
15	Cairns - Melbourne	93.2	92.8	-0.5
16	Adelaide - Brisbane	75.9	80.9	6.6
17	Canberra - Melbourne	79.8	73.9	-7.5
18	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	72.3	73.4	1.6
19	Brisbane - Mackay	72.5	73.1	0.8
20	Launceston - Melbourne	73.1	70.0	-4.2
21	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	68.9	69.7	1.0
22	Karratha - Perth	64.6	68.0	5.2
23	Hobart - Sydney	64.8	64.5	-0.4
24	Brisbane - Canberra	60.2	64.3	6.8
25	Adelaide - Perth	58.5	60.2	2.8
26	Brisbane - Rockhampton	55.7	54.5	-2.2
27	Brisbane - Newcastle	47.0	46.6	-0.9
28	Perth - Port Hedland	46.0	46.6	1.2
29	Canberra - Sydney	52.5	44.6	-15.1
30	Broome - Perth	40.4	43.3	7.3
31	Brisbane - Darwin	42.0	41.8	-0.5
32	Kalgoorlie - Perth	34.2	40.5	18.4
33	Ballina - Sydney	39.4	40.4	2.6
34	Melbourne - Newcastle	40.2	39.4	-2.1
35	Newman - Perth	40.4	37.6	-6.9
36	Darwin - Melbourne	35.8	34.9	-2.6
37	Launceston - Sydney	30.1	30.4	1.0
38	Brisbane - Hobart	25.4	27.3	7.6
39	Adelaide - Gold Coast	23.6	27.2	15.0
40	Brisbane - Proserpine	26.2	26.4	0.9
41	Hamilton Island - Sydney	22.9	19.8	-13.5
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	19.1	19.2	0.6
43	Darwin - Perth	22.0	19.2	-13.0
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	15.7	18.5	17.5
45	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	14.5	18.1	24.4
46	Brisbane - Emerald	16.9	17.1	1.2
47	Dubbo - Sydney	14.6	16.9	15.6
48	Adelaide - Canberra	15.8	16.5	4.3
49	Canberra - Gold Coast	16.3	16.1	-0.8
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	14.3	15.5	8.0

continued

Table 2: (continued) Passengers carried (000s) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
51	Albury - Sydney	13.5	15.0	11.7
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	13.5	13.9	3.3
53	Brisbane - Mount Isa	13.8	13.9	0.4
54	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	12.9	13.8	7.1
55	Brisbane - Launceston	11.3	12.9	14.7
56	Melbourne - Mildura	12.6	12.5	-0.9
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	12.5	12.4	-1.4
58	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	10.4	11.6	11.4
59	Adelaide - Alice Springs	10.3	10.4	1.0
60	Geraldton - Perth	9.9	10.2	2.7
61	Orange - Sydney	7.2	8.4	16.6
Total domestic network		5 349.6	5 331.4	-0.3

Table 3: Available seats (000s) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	817.2	787.8	-3.6
2	Brisbane - Sydney	444.1	441.7	-0.5
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	382.1	369.9	-3.2
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	262.7	266.9	1.6
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	241.3	242.1	0.3
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	214.0	210.1	-1.8
7	Melbourne - Perth	213.6	199.1	-6.8
8	Adelaide - Sydney	203.6	208.2	2.3
9	Perth - Sydney	176.1	179.3	1.8
10	Brisbane - Cairns	137.6	136.3	-0.9
11	Hobart - Melbourne	137.7	137.6	-0.1
12	Brisbane - Townsville	104.6	117.3	12.1
13	Brisbane - Perth	116.5	119.6	2.7
14	Cairns - Sydney	104.2	108.1	3.7
15	Cairns - Melbourne	102.3	100.2	-2.0
16	Adelaide - Brisbane	87.3	94.3	8.0
17	Canberra - Melbourne	106.3	101.2	-4.7
18	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	84.3	86.0	1.9
19	Brisbane - Mackay	96.2	91.0	-5.5
20	Launceston - Melbourne	84.1	81.3	-3.3
21	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	75.6	78.5	3.8
22	Karratha - Perth	86.9	96.2	10.7
23	Hobart - Sydney	74.5	76.0	2.0
24	Brisbane - Canberra	72.8	81.3	11.8
25	Adelaide - Perth	71.3	79.9	12.2
26	Brisbane - Rockhampton	64.9	68.2	5.0
27	Brisbane - Newcastle	56.7	54.5	-3.8
28	Perth - Port Hedland	66.1	68.4	3.4
29	Canberra - Sydney	79.9	62.1	-22.3
30	Broome - Perth	46.6	51.6	10.8
31	Brisbane - Darwin	48.8	47.3	-3.1
32	Kalgoorlie - Perth	60.1	65.3	8.5
33	Ballina - Sydney	45.8	49.1	7.1
34	Melbourne - Newcastle	47.6	46.6	-2.1
35	Newman - Perth	63.9	63.3	-0.9
36	Darwin - Melbourne	42.4	39.1	-7.8
37	Launceston - Sydney	33.9	35.4	4.6
38	Brisbane - Hobart	27.6	30.6	10.9
39	Adelaide - Gold Coast	25.3	29.6	17.3
40	Brisbane - Proserpine	28.3	29.5	4.5
41	Hamilton Island - Sydney	26.8	23.5	-12.6
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	27.9	27.7	-0.6
43	Darwin - Perth	29.9	21.2	-29.1
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	20.9	25.9	24.1
45	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	17.7	22.5	27.1
46	Brisbane - Emerald	25.7	24.7	-4.1
47	Dubbo - Sydney	23.0	24.4	6.0
48	Adelaide - Canberra	22.9	24.4	6.8
49	Canberra - Gold Coast	17.3	18.0	4.0
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	21.3	22.5	6.0

continued

Table 3: (continued) Available seats (000s) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
51	Albury - Sydney	18.1	20.6	14.2
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	19.2	20.7	7.6
53	Brisbane - Mount Isa	21.3	21.9	3.0
54	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	23.7	24.0	1.1
55	Brisbane - Launceston	12.5	13.9	11.2
56	Melbourne - Mildura	18.7	18.2	-2.9
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	19.0	19.9	4.7
58	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	11.9	12.9	8.0
59	Adelaide - Alice Springs	13.7	12.0	-12.1
60	Geraldton - Perth	18.9	20.1	6.3
61	Orange - Sydney	13.8	12.9	-6.3
Total domestic network		6 575.9	6 545.6	-0.5

Table 4: Load factors (%) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Point diff
1	Melbourne - Sydney	83.4	84.5	1.1
2	Brisbane - Sydney	87.6	87.0	-0.5
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	85.5	89.3	3.8
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	87.0	85.0	-1.9
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	82.3	83.9	1.5
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	90.2	91.8	1.6
7	Melbourne - Perth	86.3	84.3	-2.0
8	Adelaide - Sydney	78.2	78.2	0.0
9	Perth - Sydney	81.5	81.3	-0.2
10	Brisbane - Cairns	90.2	90.7	0.5
11	Hobart - Melbourne	85.4	83.3	-2.1
12	Brisbane - Townsville	88.6	85.6	-3.0
13	Brisbane - Perth	83.9	81.2	-2.7
14	Cairns - Sydney	91.2	89.6	-1.6
15	Cairns - Melbourne	91.1	92.6	1.5
16	Adelaide - Brisbane	86.9	85.8	-1.1
17	Canberra - Melbourne	75.1	73.0	-2.1
18	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	85.7	85.3	-0.3
19	Brisbane - Mackay	75.4	80.4	5.0
20	Launceston - Melbourne	86.9	86.2	-0.7
21	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	91.2	88.8	-2.4
22	Karratha - Perth	74.3	70.6	-3.7
23	Hobart - Sydney	86.9	84.9	-2.0
24	Brisbane - Canberra	82.7	79.0	-3.7
25	Adelaide - Perth	82.2	75.3	-6.8
26	Brisbane - Rockhampton	85.8	79.9	-5.9
27	Brisbane - Newcastle	82.9	85.5	2.5
28	Perth - Port Hedland	69.6	68.1	-1.5
29	Canberra - Sydney	65.7	71.8	6.1
30	Broome - Perth	86.6	83.9	-2.7
31	Brisbane - Darwin	86.0	88.2	2.3
32	Kalgoorlie - Perth	56.9	62.1	5.2
33	Ballina - Sydney	85.9	82.3	-3.6
34	Melbourne - Newcastle	84.5	84.5	0.0
35	Newman - Perth	63.2	59.3	-3.8
36	Darwin - Melbourne	84.5	89.3	4.8
37	Launceston - Sydney	88.8	85.8	-3.0
38	Brisbane - Hobart	91.9	89.2	-2.7
39	Adelaide - Gold Coast	93.5	91.7	-1.9
40	Brisbane - Proserpine	92.7	89.5	-3.2
41	Hamilton Island - Sydney	85.4	84.5	-0.9
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	68.6	69.5	0.8
43	Darwin - Perth	73.6	90.4	16.8
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	75.4	71.4	-4.0
45	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	82.1	80.4	-1.7
46	Brisbane - Emerald	65.6	69.2	3.6
47	Dubbo - Sydney	63.6	69.4	5.8
48	Adelaide - Canberra	69.2	67.6	-1.6
49	Canberra - Gold Coast	94.1	89.8	-4.3
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	67.5	68.7	1.3

continued

Table 4: (continued) Load factors (%) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Point diff
51	Albury - Sydney	74.5	72.9	-1.6
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	70.3	67.5	-2.8
53	Brisbane - Mount Isa	64.9	63.3	-1.6
54	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	54.4	57.7	3.2
55	Brisbane - Launceston	90.4	93.3	2.8
56	Melbourne - Mildura	67.3	68.7	1.4
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	66.1	62.2	-3.9
58	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	87.3	90.1	2.7
59	Adelaide - Alice Springs	75.6	86.9	11.3
60	Geraldton - Perth	52.5	50.7	-1.8
61	Orange - Sydney	52.1	64.8	12.7
	Total domestic network	83.4	83.2	-0.2

Table 5: Aircraft trips ^(a) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	4 687	4 490	-4.2
2	Brisbane - Sydney	2 642	2 560	-3.1
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	2 344	2 200	-6.1
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	1 486	1 497	0.7
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	1 433	1 434	0.1
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	1 158	1 148	-0.9
7	Melbourne - Perth	1 197	1 185	-1.0
8	Adelaide - Sydney	1 185	1 231	3.9
9	Perth - Sydney	953	966	1.4
10	Brisbane - Cairns	1 005	897	-10.7
11	Hobart - Melbourne	812	804	-1.0
12	Brisbane - Townsville	805	820	1.9
13	Brisbane - Perth	654	665	1.7
14	Cairns - Sydney	557	611	9.7
15	Cairns - Melbourne	534	532	-0.4
16	Adelaide - Brisbane	670	646	-3.6
17	Canberra - Melbourne	686	724	5.5
18	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	467	499	6.9
19	Brisbane - Mackay	703	694	-1.3
20	Launceston - Melbourne	645	638	-1.1
21	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	400	420	5.0
22	Karratha - Perth	524	582	11.1
23	Hobart - Sydney	445	463	4.0
24	Brisbane - Canberra	612	590	-3.6
25	Adelaide - Perth	395	465	17.7
26	Brisbane - Rockhampton	689	718	4.2
27	Brisbane - Newcastle	466	464	-0.4
28	Perth - Port Hedland	434	424	-2.3
29	Canberra - Sydney	1 257	1 082	-13.9
30	Broome - Perth	294	341	16.0
31	Brisbane - Darwin	274	271	-1.1
32	Kalgoorlie - Perth	406	440	8.4
33	Ballina - Sydney	294	339	15.3
34	Melbourne - Newcastle	315	310	-1.6
35	Newman - Perth	387	384	-0.8
36	Darwin - Melbourne	231	219	-5.2
37	Launceston - Sydney	213	206	-3.3
38	Brisbane - Hobart	164	190	15.9
39	Adelaide - Gold Coast	123	146	18.7
40	Brisbane - Proserpine	172	162	-5.8
41	Hamilton Island - Sydney	151	134	-11.3
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	319	333	4.4
43	Darwin - Perth	171	146	-14.6
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	370	398	7.6
45	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	137	142	3.6
46	Brisbane - Emerald	344	329	-4.4
47	Dubbo - Sydney	454	438	-3.5
48	Adelaide - Canberra	210	238	13.3
49	Canberra - Gold Coast	96	98	2.1
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	384	390	1.6

continued

Table 5: (continued) Aircraft trips ^(a) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
51	Albury - Sydney	336	363	8.0
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	346	332	-4.0
53	Brisbane - Mount Isa	201	144	-28.4
54	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	489	477	-2.5
55	Brisbane - Launceston	70	76	8.6
56	Melbourne - Mildura	369	331	-10.3
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	310	320	3.2
58	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	67	70	4.5
59	Adelaide - Alice Springs	162	136	-16.0
60	Geraldton - Perth	206	216	4.9
61	Orange - Sydney	256	198	-22.7
Total domestic network		52 871	52 146	-1.4

(a) Includes RPT cargo flights.

TOP 10 AIRPORTS – PASSENGER MOVEMENTS

Table 6: Top ten airports, RPT passenger movements (000s) - monthly activity

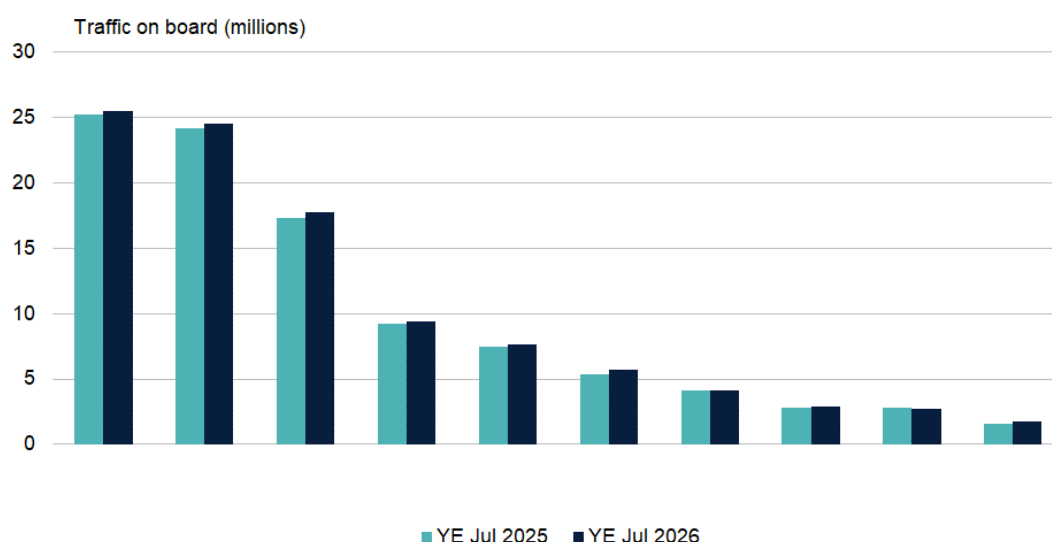
Airport	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change	% of Total
1 Sydney Kingsford Smith	2 199.3	2 195.2	-0.2	20.6
2 Melbourne	2 141.2	2 089.6	-2.4	19.6
3 Brisbane	1 579.4	1 598.8	1.2	15.0
4 Perth	826.1	819.8	-0.8	7.7
5 Adelaide	640.5	652.6	1.9	6.1
6 Gold Coast	502.6	498.3	-0.9	4.7
7 Cairns	422.6	415.3	-1.7	3.9
8 Canberra	237.4	226.3	-4.7	2.1
9 Hobart	224.4	225.3	0.4	2.1
10 Darwin	192.2	187.8	-2.3	1.8
Total top ten airports	8 965.6	8 909.1	-0.6	83.6
Total domestic network	10 699.2	10 662.8	-0.3	100.0

Table 7: Top 10 airports, RPT passenger movements (000s) - annual activity

Airport	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change	% of Total
1 Sydney Kingsford Smith	25 253.7	25 498.3	1.0	21.0
2 Melbourne	24 219.3	24 563.1	1.4	20.2
3 Brisbane	17 365.5	17 763.1	2.3	14.6
4 Perth	9 211.2	9 399.6	2.0	7.7
5 Adelaide	7 428.8	7 623.5	2.6	6.3
6 Gold Coast	5 389.3	5 670.8	5.2	4.7
7 Cairns	4 136.1	4 120.1	-0.4	3.4
8 Hobart	2 810.6	2 896.8	3.1	2.4
9 Canberra	2 769.7	2 716.3	-1.9	2.2
10 Sunshine Coast	1 611.0	1 705.8	5.9	1.4
Total top ten airports	100 195.3	101 957.4	1.8	83.9
Total domestic network	119 318.2	121 470.0	1.8	100.0

Note: Airport passenger movement numbers are the sum of passenger arrivals and departures at each airport.

Top 10 airports, RPT passenger movements



In tables 6 and 7, airport passenger movement numbers are the sum of passenger arrivals and departures at each airport for Regular Public Transport operations only. Each domestic passenger generates two passenger movements (a departure and an arrival). For example, a passenger flying from Melbourne to Sydney will be counted twice, as a passenger departure at Melbourne and a passenger arrival at Sydney.

TOP 5 AIRPORTS – CARGO MOVEMENTS

Table 8: Top 5 airports, domestic RPT cargo movements (000s tonnes) - monthly activity

Airport	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change	% of Total
1 Melbourne	7.9	7.2	-8.8	27.0
2 Sydney (Kingsford Smith)	6.0	5.3	-11.7	19.8
3 Brisbane	5.1	5.0	-2.3	18.7
4 Perth	3.1	2.9	-7.7	10.8
5 Adelaide	1.4	1.6	12.8	5.8
Total top five airports	23.5	21.9	-6.7	82.1
Total domestic network	28.4	26.7	-5.9	100.0

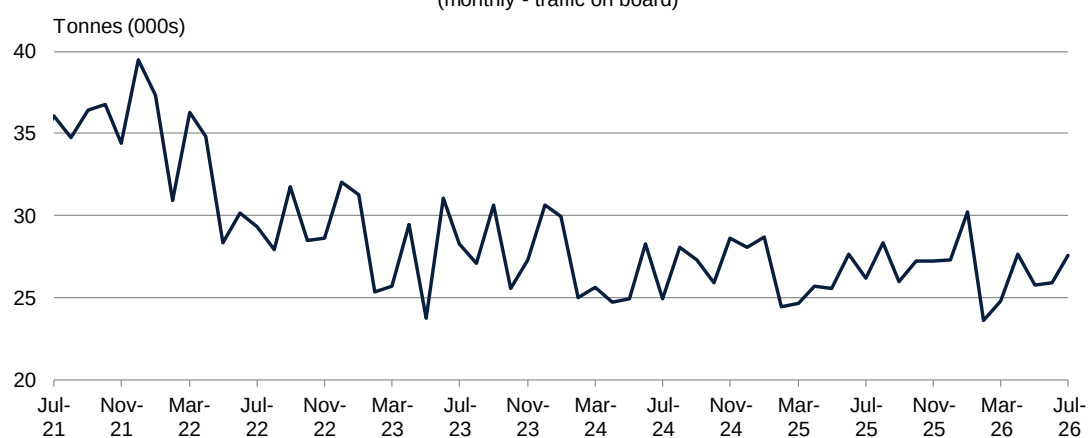
Table 9: Top 5 airports, domestic RPT cargo movements (000s tonnes) - annual activity

Airport	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change	% of Total
1 Melbourne	88.3	88.6	0.4	27.7
2 Sydney (Kingsford Smith)	67.9	67.3	-1.0	21.0
3 Brisbane	56.9	58.0	1.8	18.1
4 Perth	36.4	35.6	-2.1	11.1
5 Adelaide	17.1	17.6	2.9	5.5
Total top five airports	266.6	267.1	0.2	83.4
Total domestic network	321.4	320.3	-0.3	100.0

Note: Airport cargo tonnes are the sum of cargo tonnes on arrivals and departures at each airport.

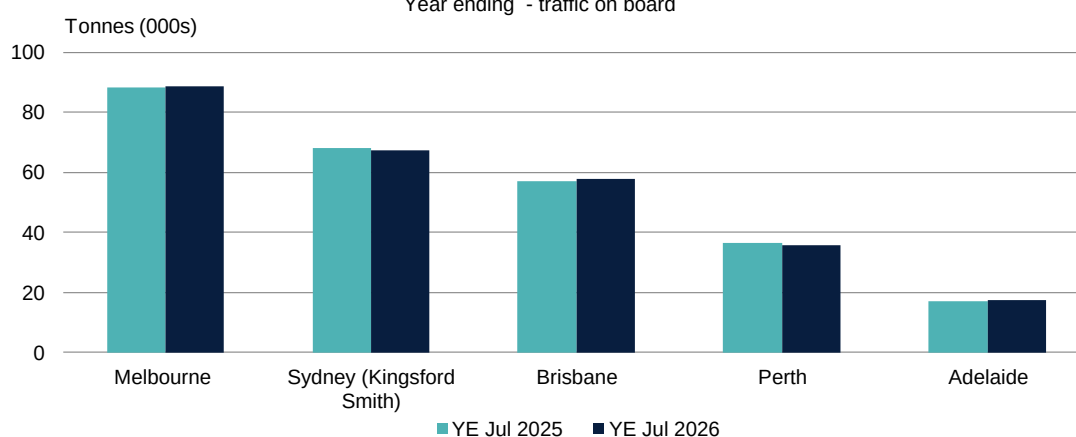
Total domestic network - cargo movement

(monthly - traffic on board)



Top 5 airports, cargo movements

Year ending - traffic on board



Note: Airport cargo tonnes are the sum of cargo tonnes on arrivals and departures at each airport.

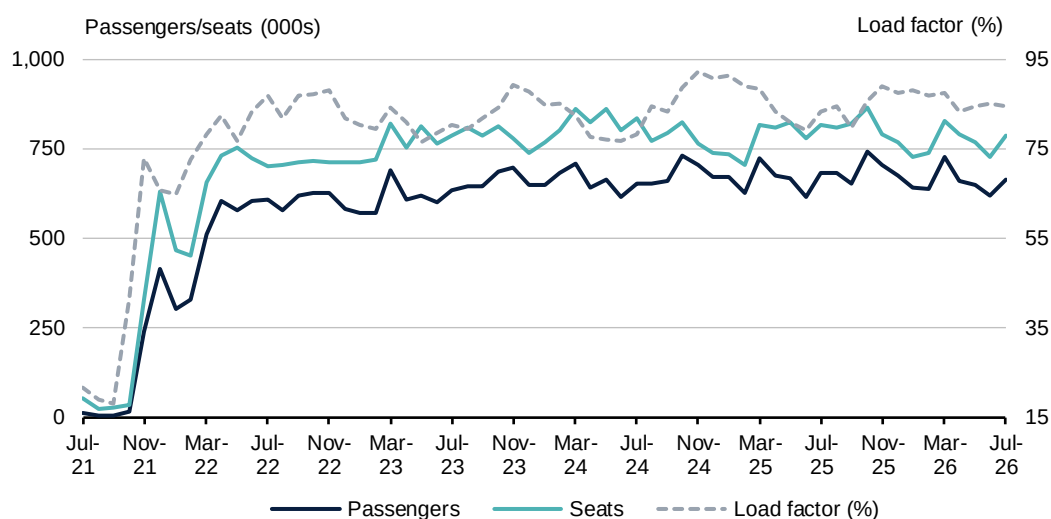
TOP 10 ROUTES

1. Melbourne - Sydney

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	681.6	665.4	-2.4
Seats (000s)	817.2	787.8	-3.6
Load factor %	83.4	84.5	1.1 *
Aircraft trips	4 687	4 490	-4.2

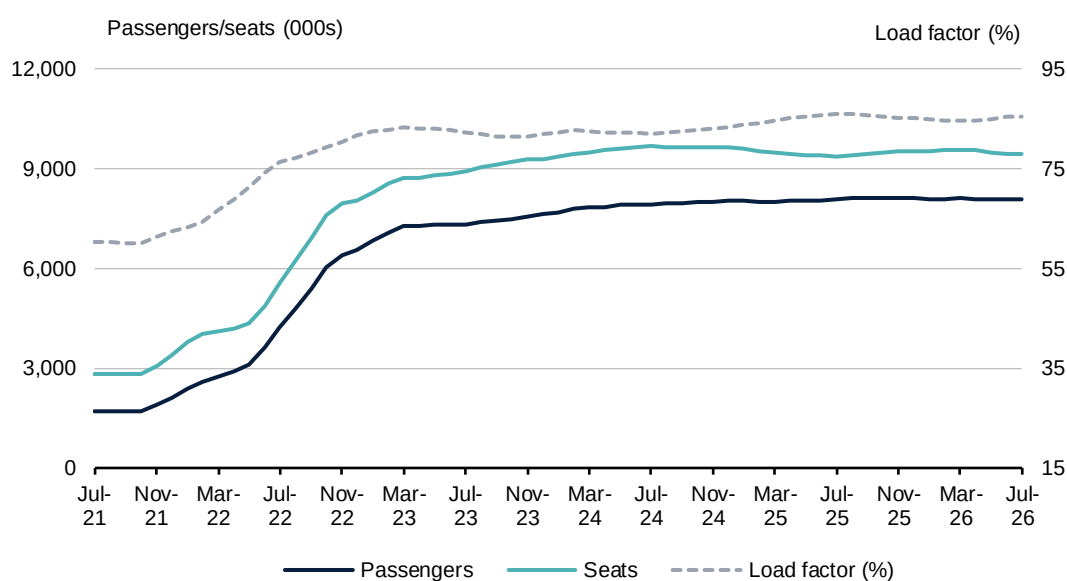
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	8 084.1	8 064.3	-0.2
Seats (000s)	9 385.6	9 430.4	0.5
Load factor %	86.1	85.5	-0.6 *
Aircraft trips	53 838	53 871	0.1

* percentage point difference

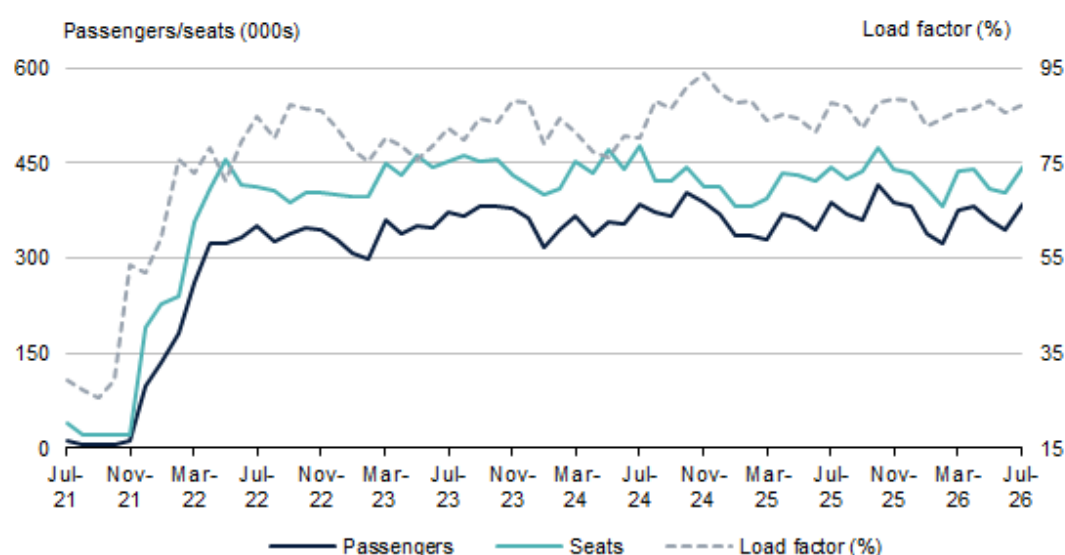


2. Brisbane - Sydney

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	388.8	384.5	-1.1
Seats (000s)	444.1	441.7	-0.5
Load factor %	87.6	87.0	-0.5 *
Aircraft trips	2 642	2 560	-3.1

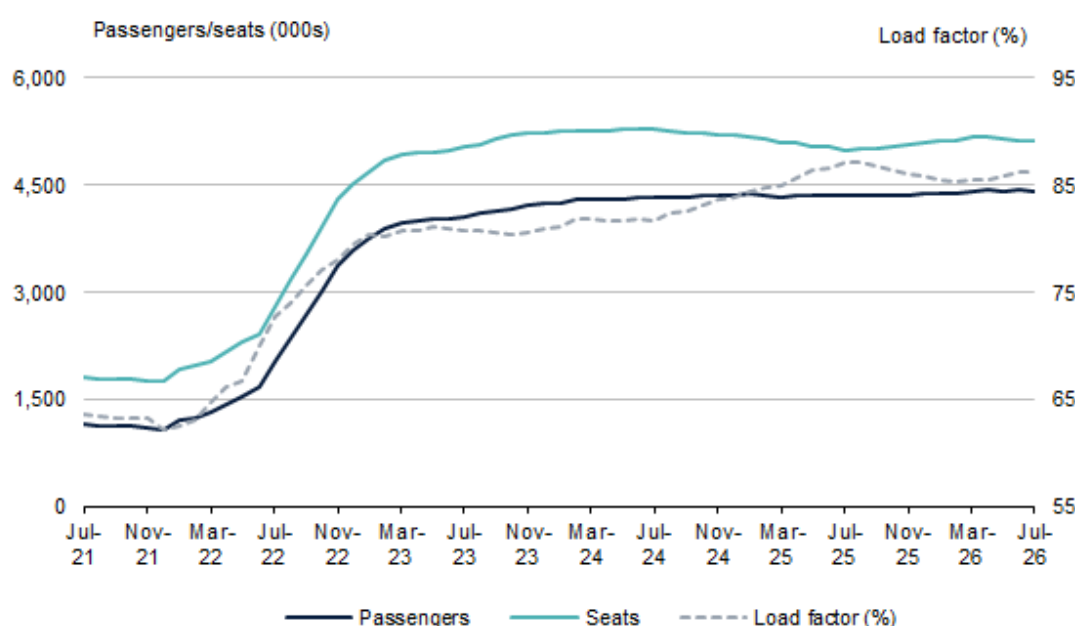
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	4 363.7	4 424.8	1.4
Seats (000s)	5 001.4	5 134.4	2.7
Load factor %	87.2	86.2	-1.1 *
Aircraft trips	29 965	30 335	1.2

* percentage point difference

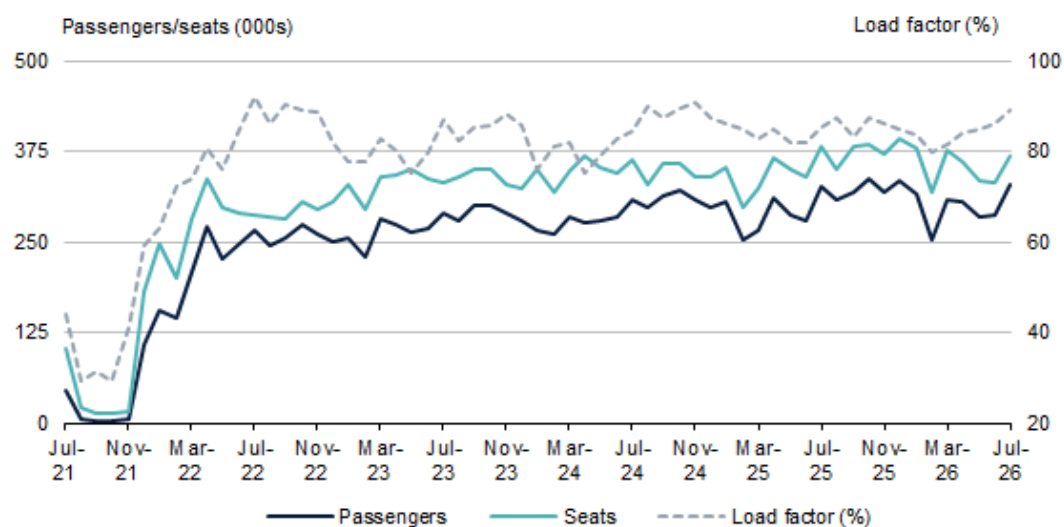


3. Brisbane - Melbourne

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	326.6	330.2	1.1
Seats (000s)	382.1	369.9	-3.2
Load factor %	85.5	89.3	3.8 *
Aircraft trips	2 344	2 200	-6.1

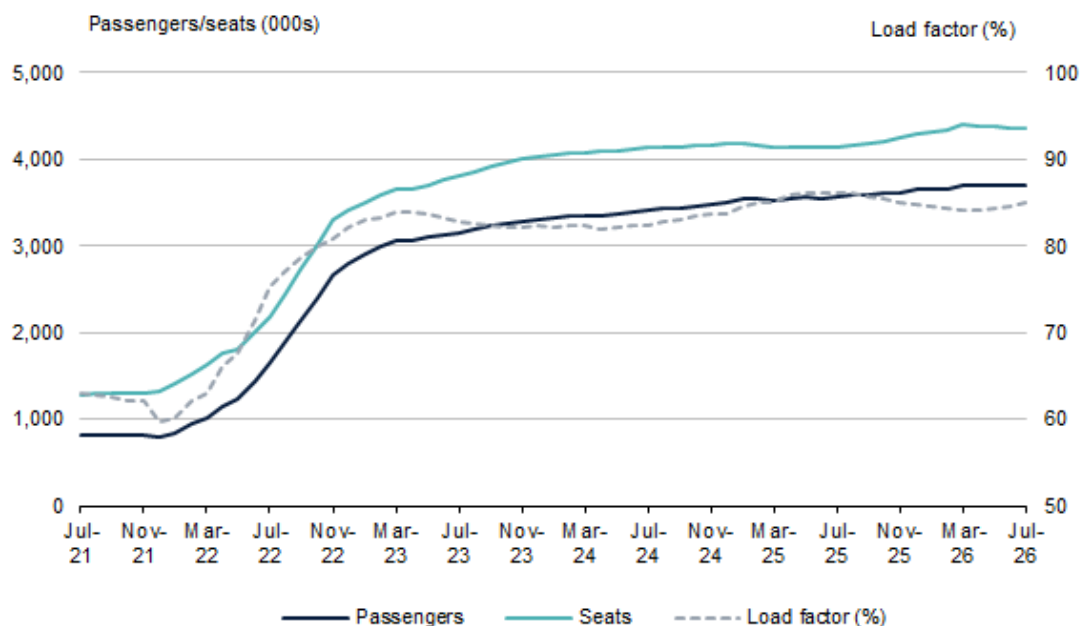
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	3 572.0	3 699.9	3.6
Seats (000s)	4 144.7	4 353.8	5.0
Load factor %	86.2	85.0	-1.2 *
Aircraft trips	24 977	26 220	5.0

* percentage point difference

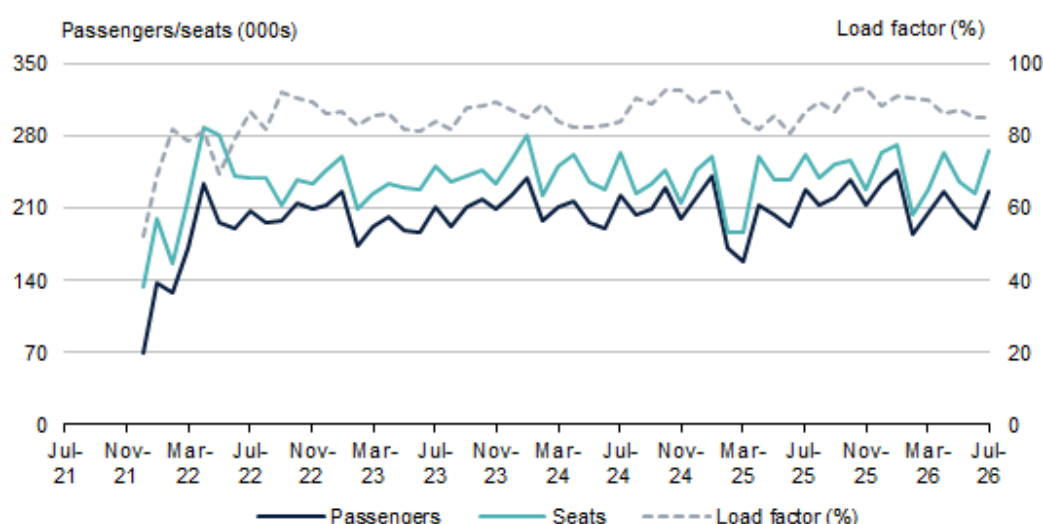


4. Gold Coast - Sydney ^(a)

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	228.4	226.9	-0.7
Seats (000s)	262.7	266.9	1.6
Load factor %	87.0	85.0	-1.9 *
Aircraft trips	1 486	1 497	0.7

* percentage point difference

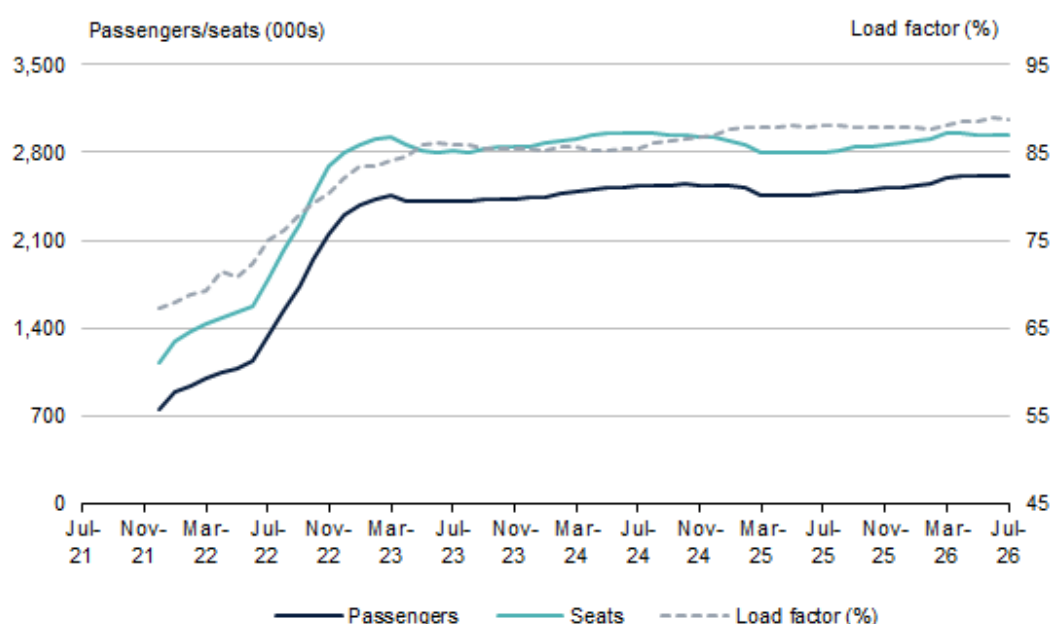


(a) August to November 2021 data not available for release.

Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 472.0	2 608.6	5.5
Seats (000s)	2 804.3	2 937.5	4.8
Load factor %	88.1	88.8	0.7 *
Aircraft trips	15 931	16 639	4.4

* percentage point difference



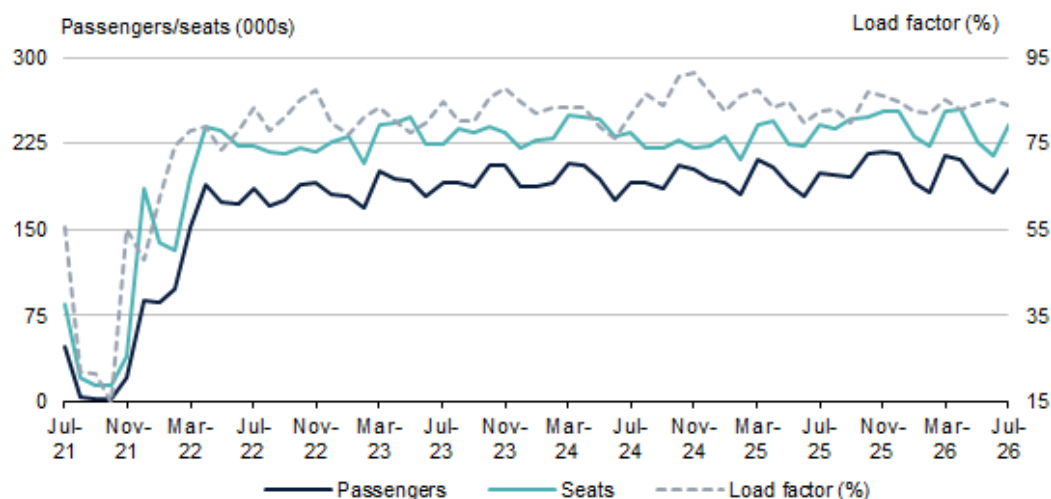
(a) August to November 2021 moving annual totals are not available for release.

5. Adelaide - Melbourne

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	198.7	203.0	2.2
Seats (000s)	241.3	242.1	0.3
Load factor %	82.3	83.9	1.5 *
Aircraft trips	1 433	1 434	0.1

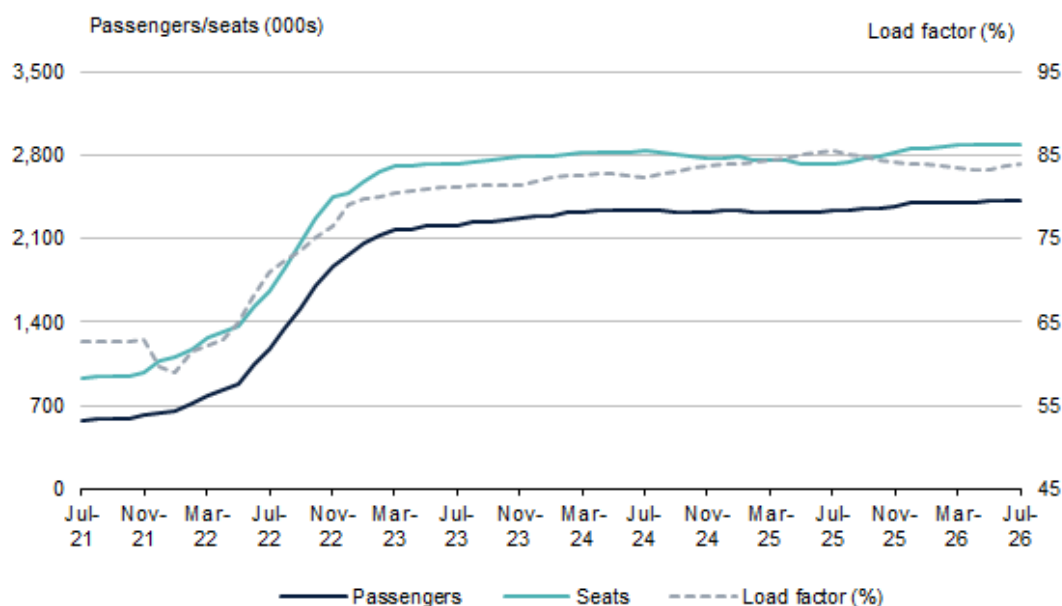
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 331.1	2 418.8	3.8
Seats (000s)	2 728.5	2 884.5	5.7
Load factor %	85.4	83.9	-1.6 *
Aircraft trips	16 231	17 277	6.4

* percentage point difference

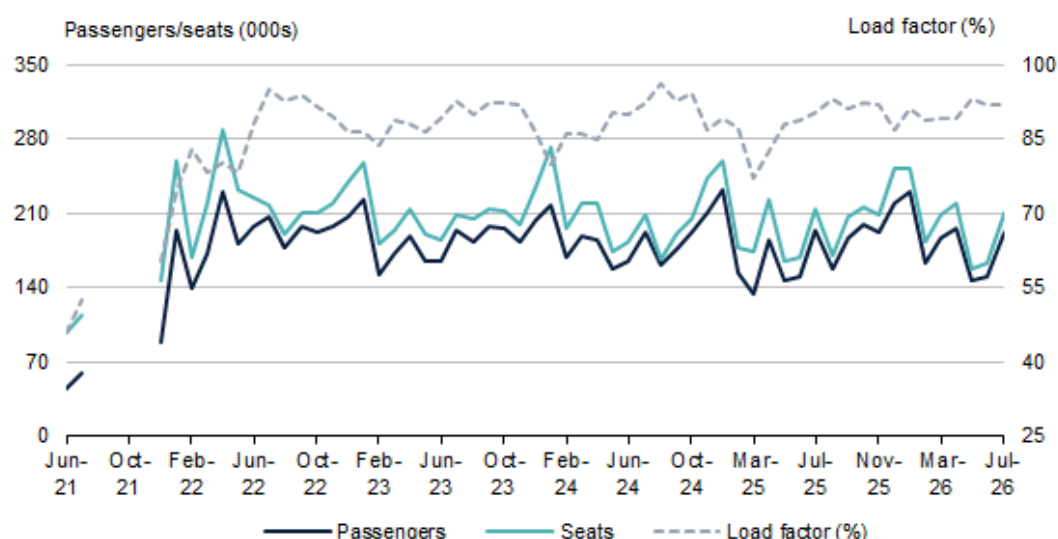


6. Gold Coast - Melbourne ^(a)

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	193.0	192.9	-0.1
Seats (000s)	214.0	210.1	-1.8
Load factor %	90.2	91.8	1.6 *
Aircraft trips	1 158	1 148	-0.9

* percentage point difference

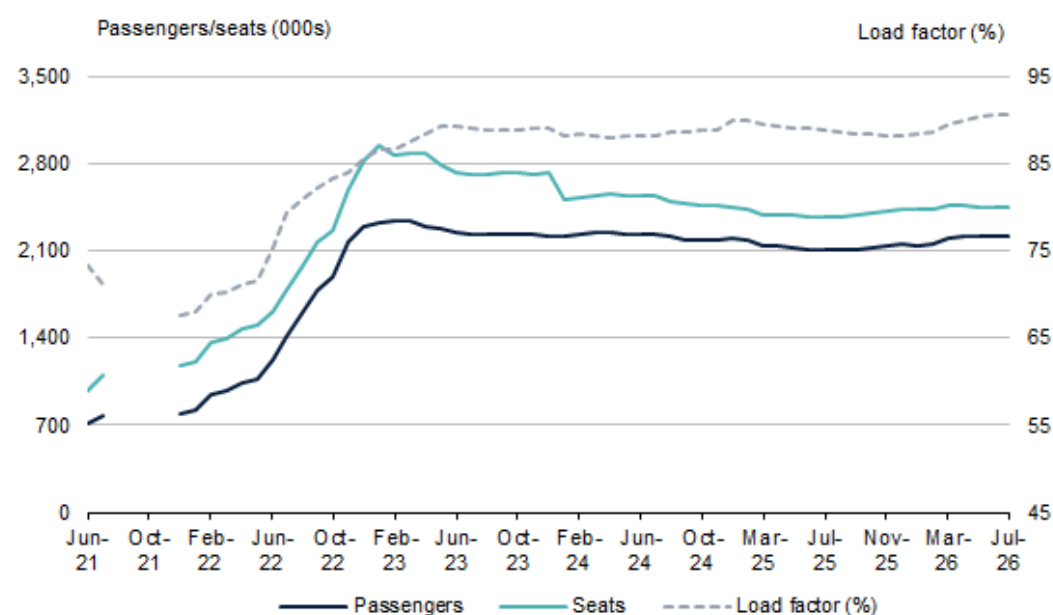


(a) August to November 2021 data not available for release.

Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 106.8	2 216.6	5.2
Seats (000s)	2 373.5	2 445.4	3.0
Load factor %	88.8	90.6	1.9 *
Aircraft trips	12 820	13 271	3.5

* percentage point difference



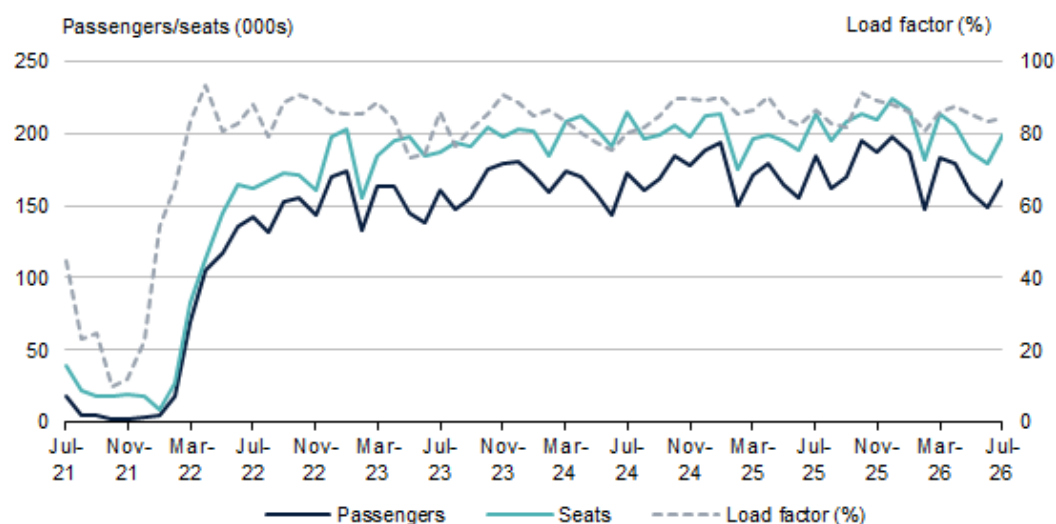
(a) August to November 2021 moving annual totals are not available for release.

7. Melbourne - Perth

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	184.3	167.8	-9.0
Seats (000s)	213.6	199.1	-6.8
Load factor %	86.3	84.3	-2.0 *
Aircraft trips	1 197	1 185	-1.0

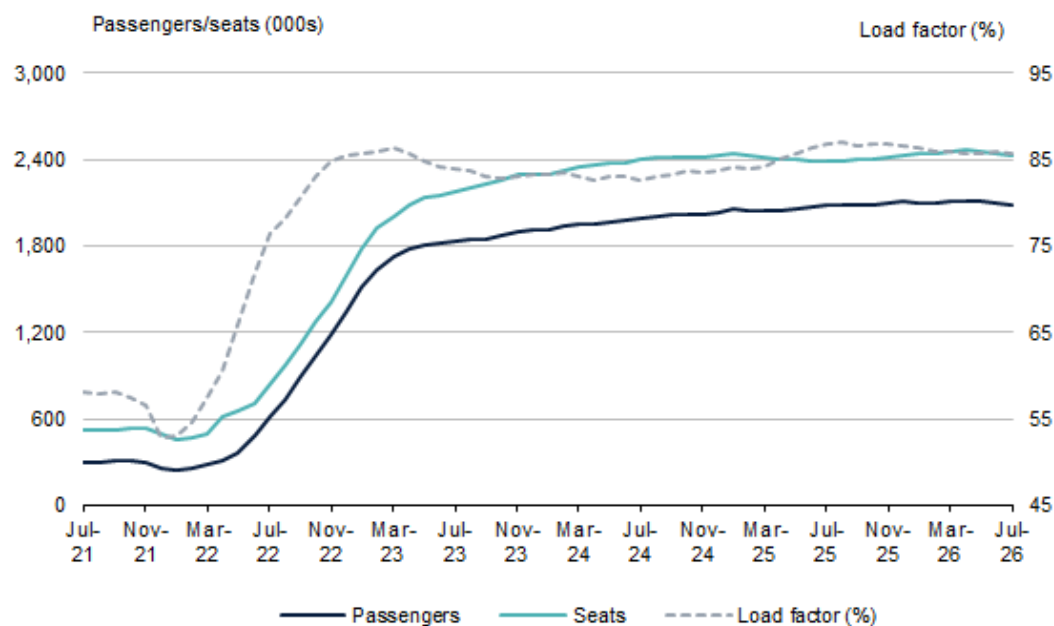
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 078.3	2 085.9	0.4
Seats (000s)	2 394.1	2 433.5	1.6
Load factor %	86.8	85.7	-1.1 *
Aircraft trips	13 347	13 763	3.1

* percentage point difference

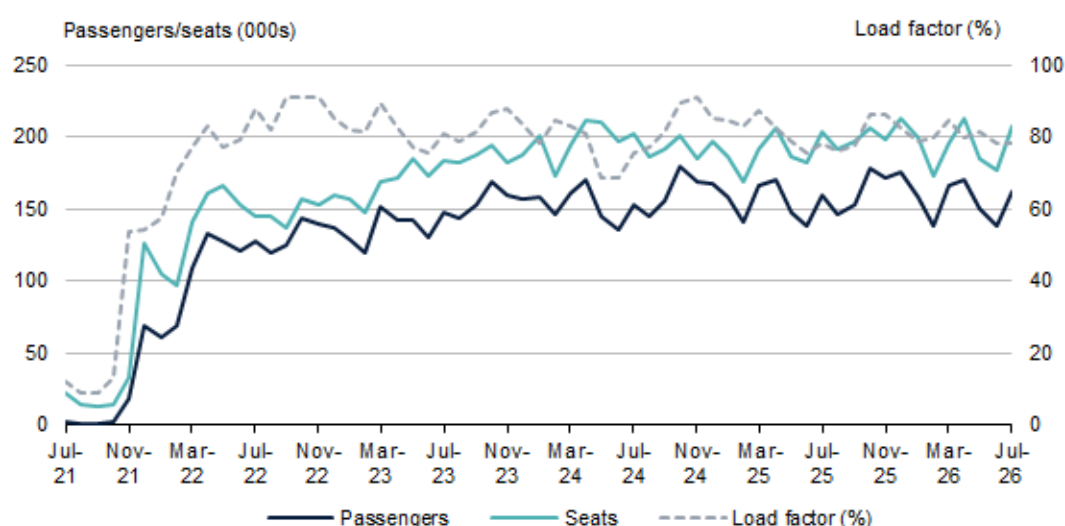


8. Adelaide - Sydney

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	159.2	162.8	2.2
Seats (000s)	203.6	208.2	2.3
Load factor %	78.2	78.2	0.0 *
Aircraft trips	1 185	1 231	3.9

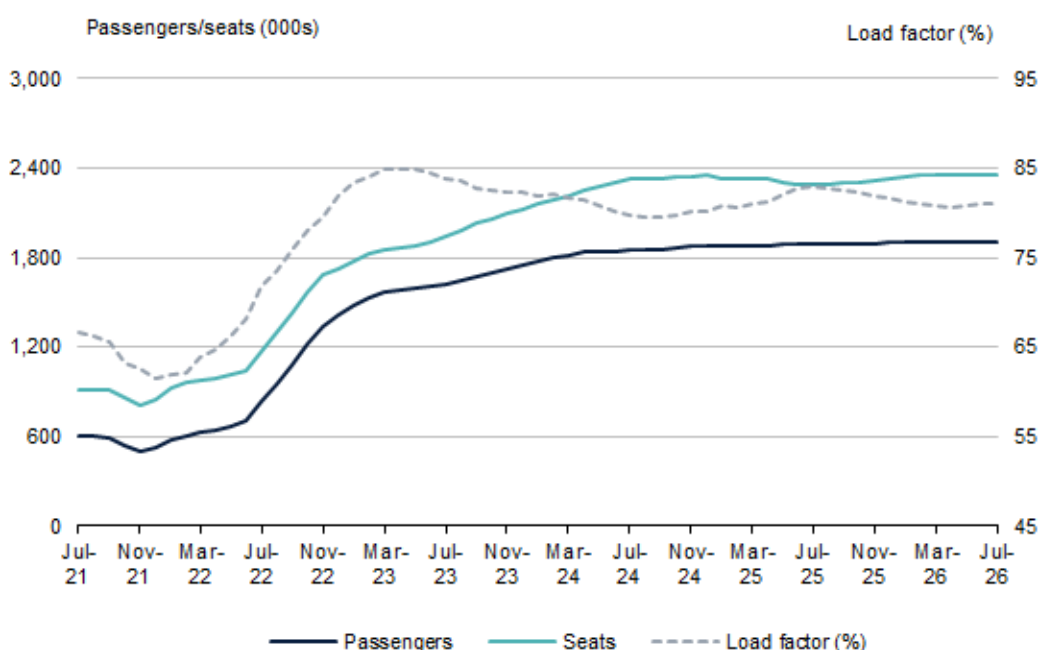
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 895.8	1 906.7	0.6
Seats (000s)	2 286.0	2 356.4	3.1
Load factor %	82.9	80.9	-2.0 *
Aircraft trips	13 441	13 839	3.0

* percentage point difference

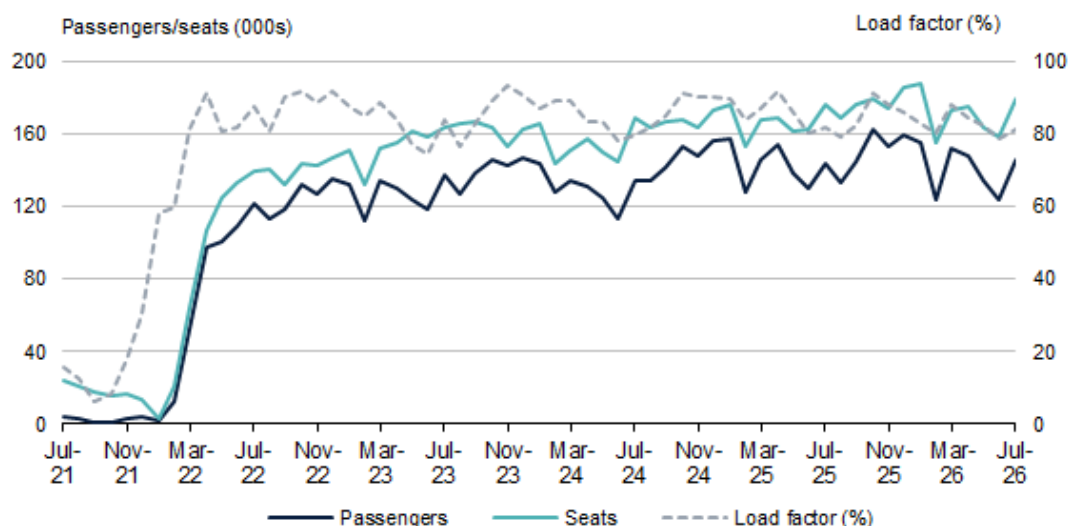


9. Perth - Sydney

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	143.6	145.8	1.5
Seats (000s)	176.1	179.3	1.8
Load factor %	81.5	81.3	-0.2 *
Aircraft trips	953	966	1.4

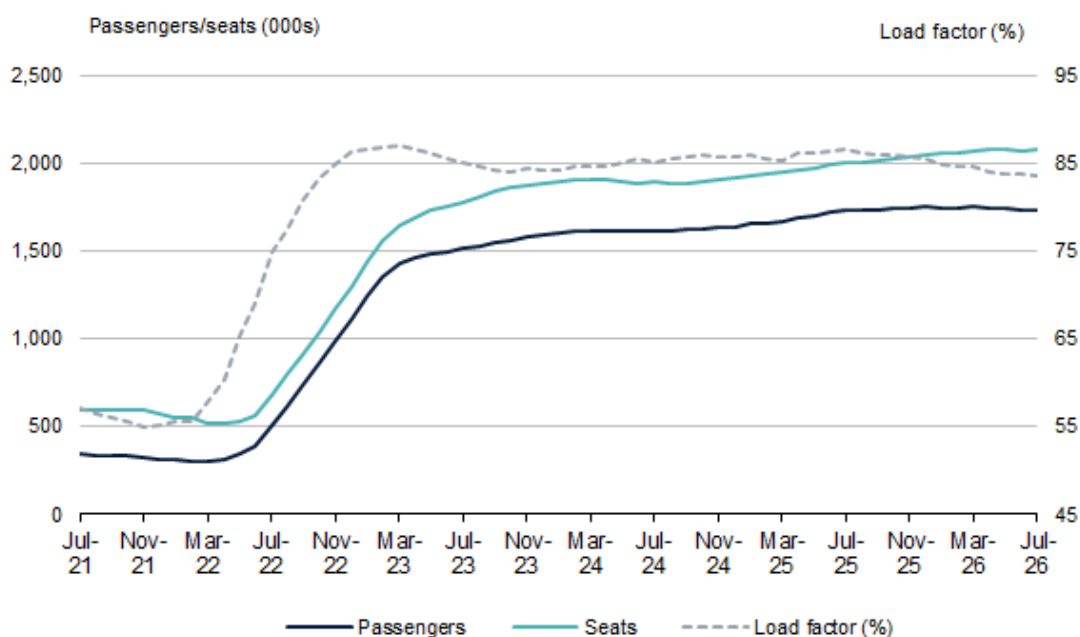
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 727.2	1 735.2	0.5
Seats (000s)	1 997.5	2 074.7	3.9
Load factor %	86.5	83.6	-2.8 *
Aircraft trips	10 639	11 093	4.3

* percentage point difference

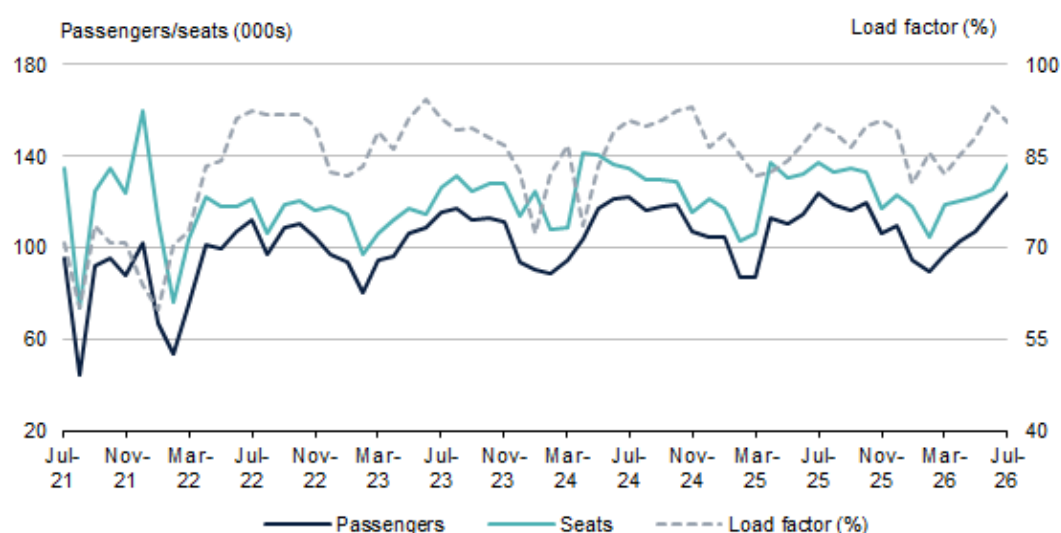


10. Brisbane - Cairns

Monthly data

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	124.1	123.6	-0.4
Seats (000s)	137.6	136.3	-0.9
Load factor %	90.2	90.7	0.5 *
Aircraft trips	1 005	897	-10.7

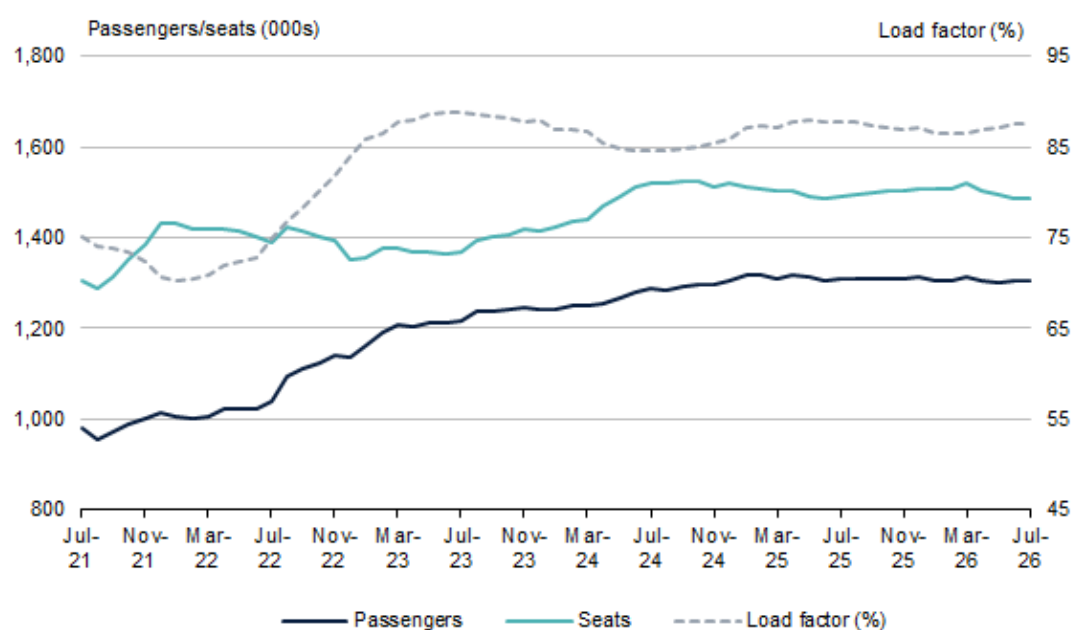
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 307.8	1 303.8	-0.3
Seats (000s)	1 490.4	1 487.3	-0.2
Load factor %	87.7	87.7	-0.1 *
Aircraft trips	10 576	10 497	-0.7

* percentage point difference



TOP 50 REGIONAL AIRPORTS

Table 10: Top 50 regional airports (000s) — passenger movements, monthly

Airport	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
1 Cairns	422.6	415.3	-1.7
2 Hobart	224.4	225.3	0.4
3 Darwin	192.2	187.8	-2.3
4 Townsville	156.4	160.7	2.7
5 Launceston	115.7	115.2	-0.4
6 Newcastle	107.5	104.6	-2.7
7 Mackay	83.6	82.4	-1.4
8 Karratha	66.4	69.6	4.8
9 Rockhampton	59.6	57.8	-3.1
10 Broome	54.6	57.4	5.1
11 Proserpine	50.6	52.5	3.7
12 Ballina	49.7	50.6	1.9
13 Port Hedland	47.4	48.0	1.1
14 Hamilton Island	44.6	45.4	1.8
15 Kalgoorlie	34.2	40.5	18.4
16 Newman	40.5	37.6	-7.2
17 Ayers Rock	34.0	36.6	7.6
18 Alice Springs	37.8	36.5	-3.5
19 Coffs Harbour	20.9	23.1	10.4
20 Mount Isa	21.0	21.0	-0.3
21 Hervey Bay	18.9	20.5	8.1
22 Albury	19.7	20.1	2.0
23 Dubbo	18.0	20.0	11.1
24 Wagga Wagga	19.0	19.4	2.6
25 Gladstone	19.1	19.3	0.9
26 Paraburdoo	21.8	18.8	-13.7
27 Emerald	16.9	17.2	1.6
28 Port Macquarie	16.0	16.5	3.2
29 Mildura	15.7	15.4	-1.9
30 Kununurra	16.7	14.7	-11.9
31 Port Lincoln	12.9	13.8	6.9
32 Tamworth	12.9	13.7	6.0
33 Bundaberg	12.5	12.4	-1.5
34 Thursday Island	10.6	11.8	11.8
35 Learmonth	12.5	11.6	-7.2
36 Devonport	13.1	11.3	-14.2
37 Orange	9.9	11.0	11.2
38 Geraldton	10.6	10.9	3.0
39 Armidale	8.9	9.9	11.3
40 Weipa	8.7	9.2	5.6
41 Olympic Dam	9.3	8.6	-6.9
42 Gove	8.6	8.1	-6.0
43 Moranbah	8.8	7.4	-15.5
44 Burnie	6.8	7.2	6.6
45 Merimbula	5.8	6.2	6.8
46 Griffith	6.6	5.8	-12.7
47 Mount Gambier	6.0	5.7	-6.3
48 Albany	5.1	5.6	9.1
49 Roma	5.5	5.6	1.0
50 Broken Hill	5.2	5.3	2.0
Total top 50 regional airports	2 226.0	2 230.8	0.2
Total regional airports	2 348.8	2 348.2	0.0
Total domestic network	10 699.2	10 662.8	-0.3

Note: Airport passenger movement numbers are the sum of passenger arrivals and departures at each airport. Regional airports are defined as airports which are, according to Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), not based in Major Cities.

Table 11: Top 50 regional airports (000s) — passenger movements, annual

Airport	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
1 Cairns	4 136.1	4 120.1	-0.4
2 Hobart	2 810.6	2 896.8	3.1
3 Townsville	1 642.0	1 667.6	1.6
4 Darwin	1 642.5	1 632.7	-0.6
5 Launceston	1 441.7	1 477.3	2.5
6 Newcastle	1 189.1	1 245.9	4.8
7 Mackay	904.4	932.8	3.1
8 Karratha	665.1	738.1	11.0
9 Rockhampton	648.6	643.1	-0.8
10 Ballina	609.1	586.6	-3.7
11 Proserpine	527.1	577.8	9.6
12 Port Hedland	493.2	517.6	4.9
13 Hamilton Island	490.4	485.7	-1.0
14 Broome	445.8	458.2	2.8
15 Newman	432.6	445.1	2.9
16 Kalgoorlie	376.7	443.7	17.8
17 Alice Springs	359.2	367.5	2.3
18 Ayers Rock	346.4	353.8	2.1
19 Coffs Harbour	252.8	266.0	5.2
20 Mount Isa	238.6	231.6	-2.9
21 Hervey Bay	209.9	230.1	9.6
22 Albury	221.8	226.2	2.0
23 Paraburdoo	271.4	225.3	-17.0
24 Wagga Wagga	214.1	225.0	5.1
25 Dubbo	205.9	219.9	6.8
26 Gladstone	220.5	217.5	-1.3
27 Port Macquarie	190.8	198.0	3.8
28 Emerald	188.9	190.3	0.7
29 Mildura	188.5	184.0	-2.4
30 Port Lincoln	166.6	169.7	1.9
31 Tamworth	160.2	159.4	-0.5
32 Devonport	138.2	144.6	4.6
33 Bundaberg	140.7	140.8	0.1
34 Orange	113.7	133.8	17.7
35 Kununurra	140.4	131.8	-6.1
36 Geraldton	126.8	130.8	3.1
37 Thursday Island	119.0	117.6	-1.2
38 Armidale	102.2	112.8	10.4
39 Olympic Dam	101.6	104.0	2.3
40 Weipa	97.0	100.7	3.8
41 Learmonth	113.6	99.3	-12.6
42 Busselton	96.1	91.1	-5.2
43 Moranbah	106.2	91.1	-14.3
44 Gove	88.2	82.9	-6.0
45 Burnie	80.8	82.9	2.6
46 Merimbula	68.5	75.0	9.5
47 Griffith	75.5	72.6	-3.9
48 Mount Gambier	70.9	71.1	0.3
49 Albany	66.8	66.2	-0.9
50 Roma	61.2	62.5	3.6
Total top 50 regional airports	23 798.2	24 245.3	1.9
Total regional airports	25 209.7	25 632.7	1.7
Total domestic network	119 318.2	121 470.0	1.8

Note: Airport passenger movement numbers are the sum of passenger arrivals and departures at each airport. Regional airports are defined as airports which are, according to Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), not based in Major Cities.

DOMESTIC CHARTER ACTIVITY

Table 12: Charter passengers carried and aircraft trips - monthly activity (000s)

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	411.9	432.2	4.9
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	6.9	7.2	4.4

Note: Helicopter, joyflights and sightseeing charter flights not included.

Table 13: Charter passengers carried and aircraft trips - annual activity (000s)

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	4 322.8	4 582.5	6.0
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	74.1	77.3	4.4

Note: Helicopter, joyflights and sightseeing charter flights not included.

Table 14: Domestic airports - charter activity - monthly (000s)

	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	823.9	864.5	4.9
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	13.8	14.4	4.4
Perth airport charter passenger movements	288.7	308.3	6.8
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	4.1	4.4	7.1

Note: Helicopter, joyflights and sightseeing charter flights not included.

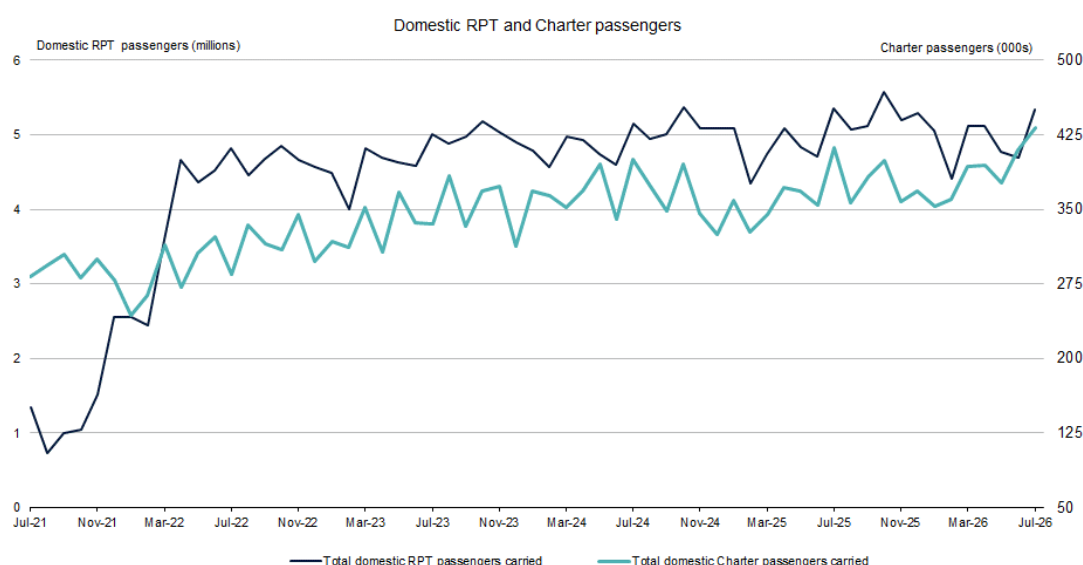
Charter passenger and aircraft movement numbers are the sum of arrivals and departures at each airport.

Table 15: Domestic airports - charter activity - annual (000s)

	YE Jul 2025	YE Jul 2026	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	8 645.6	9 165.0	6.0
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	148.2	154.7	4.4
Perth airport charter passenger movements	3 070.2	3 249.9	5.9
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	45.0	47.0	4.6

Note: Helicopter, joyflights and sightseeing charter flights not included.

Charter passenger and aircraft movement numbers are the sum of arrivals and departures at each airport.



DEFINITIONS

Aircraft Trips	The number of flight stages. A return flight counts as two aircraft trips.
Airport Movements	Airport movements (passenger and cargo) are measured once on arrival and once on departure. Each domestic trip generates two movements at airports. For example, a trip from Melbourne to Sydney will be counted twice, as a departure at Melbourne and as an arrival at Sydney. At the national level, the sum of all domestic airport traffic will therefore be equal to twice the number of trips undertaken.
Available Seat Kilometres (ASKs)	Calculated by multiplying the number of seats available on each flight stage, by the distance in kilometres between the ports. The distances used are Great Circle Distances.
City-Pair	The ports shown make up the city-pair route. Passenger movements shown for a city pair reflect total traffic in both directions.
Flight Stage	The operation of an aircraft from take-off to landing.
Load Factor	The total revenue passenger kilometres performed as a percentage of the total available seat kilometres.
Passengers Carried	Revenue passengers carried.
Regular Public Transport Services (RPT)	All air service operations in which aircraft are available for the transport of members of the public and are conducted in accordance with fixed schedules. It does not include charter or other non-scheduled operations.
Revenue Passengers	All passengers paying any fare. Frequent flyer redemption travellers are regarded as revenue passengers.
Revenue Passenger Kilometres (RPKs)	Calculated by multiplying the number of revenue passengers travelling on each flight stage, by the distance in kilometres between the ports. The distances used are Great Circle Distances.
Traffic on board by stages (TOB)	The total of all traffic (revenue passengers) on each flight stage between two directly connected airports.
..	Not available for confidentiality or other reasons.
NA	Not applicable.