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FOREWORD

This report provides an overview of domestic (including charter) commercial aviation activity in Australia for the month of March 2021.

The data cover revenue passengers carried by Australian-registered operators of scheduled regular public transport 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 exceeding 8 000 passengers per month where two or more airlines operate in competition. For the month of March 2021, there were 53 such routes compared to 63 published in March 2020.

Information on the total network for the month of March 2021 and on the Regular Public Transport (RPT) network for the month of March 2021 is presented on page 2, with estimates for the year ended March 2021 presented on page 3.

Detailed information on individual routes can be found in the RPT summary pages 4-13 of this publication.

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

Data on domestic RPT cargo movements at the top five cargo airports are provided on page 15. The table includes cargo carried on passenger flights operated by the Qantas group (including Jetstar), Virgin Australia, Air North, Rex and Skippers as well as the cargo carried by dedicated freighter aircraft operated by Qantas Freight and Toll Aviation.

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

Domestic RPT passenger movements at regional airports are presented 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 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 3.1 million passengers carried on Australian domestic commercial aviation (including charter operations) in March 2021, a decrease of 5.8 per cent on March 2020. For the month of March 2021, there were 42.8 thousand aircraft trips, a decrease of 9.9 per cent compared to March 2020.

2.8 million passengers were carried on RPT flights in March 2021, a decrease of 8.9 per cent on March 2020.

For the year ending March 2021 there were 13.0 million RPT passengers, a decrease of 78.1 per cent on the year ending March 2020.

RPT revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) performed were 3.14 billion for the month, down 12.9 per cent compared with March 2020. Capacity, measured by available seat kilometres (ASKs), decreased by 18.0 per cent compared with March 2020 to a total of 4.70 billion.

The industry wide load factor (RPKs/ASKs) increased from 62.7 per cent in March 2020 to 66.7 per cent in March 2021. Load factors increased on 40 individual RPT routes of the 52 RPT routes for which data is available for publishing in both years. The highest load factor (82.7 per cent) was recorded on Gold Coast – Melbourne route.

For the month of March 2021, Melbourne – Sydney was Australia's busiest RPT route with 341.3 thousand passengers, a decrease of 18.0 per cent compared with March 2020. It was followed by Brisbane – Sydney with 189.9 thousand passengers (down 16.8 per cent) and Brisbane – Melbourne with 131.3 thousand passengers (down 22.2 per cent).

Sydney was Australia's busiest domestic airport with 1.12 million passenger movements in March 2021 (down 15.4 per cent), followed by Melbourne with 973.6 thousand passenger movements (down 22.3 per cent) and Brisbane with 853.6 thousand passenger movements (down 3.6 per cent).

Total cargo movements at Australian airports on domestic RPT flights were 36.2 thousand tonnes in March 2021, a decrease of 3.2 per cent compared with March 2020.

In March 2021, there were 1.39 million domestic passenger movements through regional airports, 6.6 per cent more than in March 2020. Out of the top 50 regional airports, increases were recorded at 32 airports. The biggest increase was at Ballina airport (up 96.0 per cent on March 2020), while the largest decrease was recorded at Ayers Rock airport (down 51.8 per cent on March 2020).

Fixed-wing charter operators carried 310.5 thousand passengers in March 2021, an increase of 35.6 per cent on March 2020. Perth Airport accounted for 37.9 per cent of all charter passengers in Australia.

TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of monthly commercial aviation activity

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	3.30	3.11	-5.8
Aircraft trips (000s)	47.5	42.8	-9.9

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

RPT NETWORK

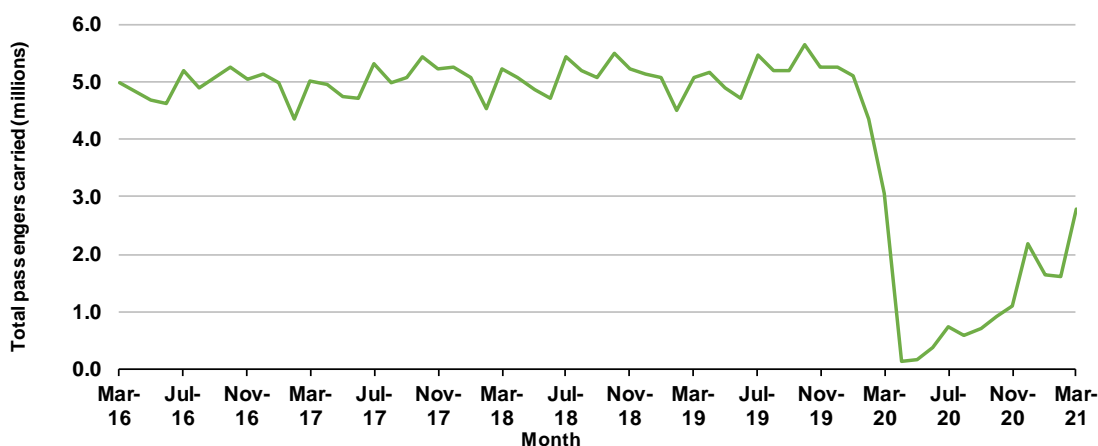
Summary of monthly RPT activity

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	3.07	2.80	-8.9
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	3.60	3.14	-12.9
Available seats (millions)	5.03	4.25	-15.5
Available seat kilometres (billions)	5.74	4.70	-18.0
Load factor %	62.7	66.7	4.0 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	43.1	37.1	-14.0

* percentage point difference

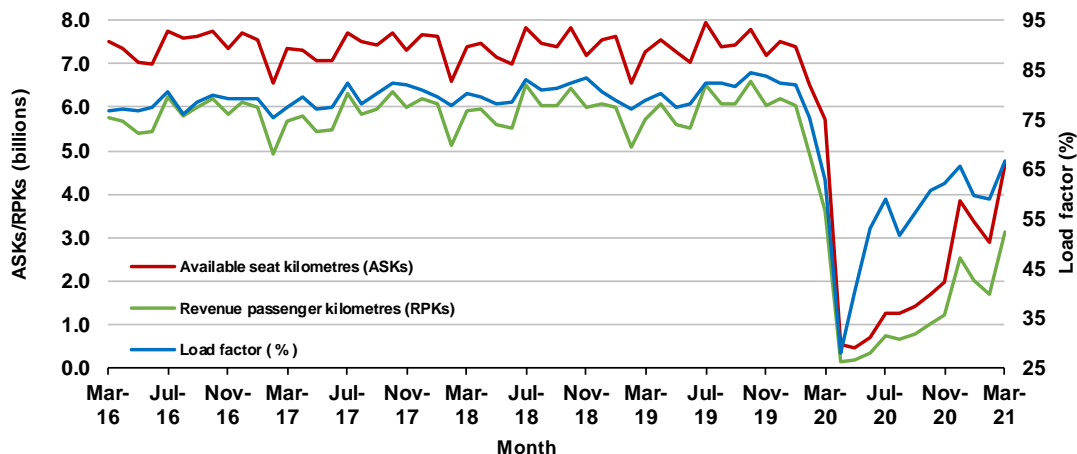
Domestic RPT passenger traffic

(monthly)



RPT Network utilisation

(monthly)



TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of annual commercial aviation activity

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	62.10	16.24	-73.9
Aircraft trips (000s)	673.0	298.1	-55.7

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

RPT NETWORK

Summary of annual RPT activity

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	59.29	12.98	-78.1
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	69.26	14.61	-78.9
Available seats (millions)	76.05	21.72	-71.4
Available seat kilometres (billions)	86.72	24.23	-72.1
Load factor %	79.9	60.3	-19.6 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	624.4	229.7	-63.2

* percentage point difference

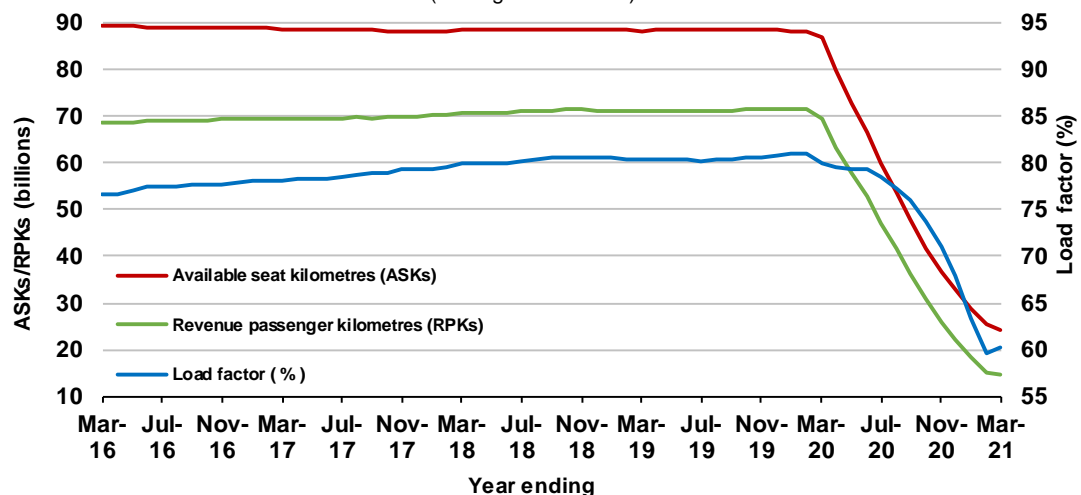
Domestic RPT passenger traffic

(moving annual totals)



RPT Network utilisation

(moving annual totals)



TOP COMPETITIVE ROUTES

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

	City-Pair	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	8 719.1	905.6	-89.6
2	Brisbane - Sydney	4 637.1	702.8	-84.8
3	Brisbane - Cairns	1 248.7	682.8	-45.3
4	Brisbane - Melbourne	3 478.2	486.0	-86.0
5	Brisbane - Townsville	999.1	460.2	-53.9
6	Ballina - Sydney	423.5	392.4	-7.4
7	Gold Coast - Melbourne	2 050.5	362.7	-82.3
8	Brisbane - Mackay	767.6	350.6	-54.3
9	Adelaide - Sydney	1 800.8	336.3	-81.3
10	Gold Coast - Sydney	2 652.1	303.3	-88.6
11	Adelaide - Brisbane	858.4	303.1	-64.7
12	Adelaide - Melbourne	2 433.2	280.6	-88.5
13	Karratha - Perth	464.0	252.8	-45.5
14	Hobart - Melbourne	1 605.6	251.7	-84.3
15	Brisbane - Rockhampton	527.5	228.9	-56.6
16	Broome - Perth	317.3	228.1	-28.1
17	Brisbane - Canberra	647.8	217.7	-66.4
18	Perth - Port Hedland	381.9	193.1	-49.4
19	Brisbane - Perth	951.9	167.3	-82.4
20	Newman - Perth	344.2	165.3	-52.0
21	Brisbane - Proserpine	255.6	161.2	-36.9
22	Launceston - Melbourne	922.0	159.1	-82.7
23	Brisbane - Darwin	346.1	157.5	-54.5
24	Kalgoorlie - Perth	268.2	152.7	-43.1
25	Perth - Sydney	1 644.8	150.1	-90.9
26	Melbourne - Perth	2 055.5	150.0	-92.7
27	Brisbane - Newcastle	587.9	142.9	-75.7
28	Hobart - Sydney	708.2	133.0	-81.2
29	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	130.6	132.8	1.7
30	Canberra - Melbourne	1 128.7	129.9	-88.5
31	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	545.1	128.4	-76.4
32	Brisbane - Hobart	237.6	109.3	-54.0
33	Cairns - Melbourne	814.3	107.2	-86.8
34	Adelaide - Perth	644.1	99.8	-84.5
35	Cairns - Sydney	1 024.8	94.6	-90.8
36	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	633.7	89.3	-85.9
37	Canberra - Sydney	894.7	87.2	-90.2
38	Brisbane - Gladstone	241.9	87.0	-64.0
39	Adelaide - Gold Coast	209.8	85.7	-59.2
40	Brisbane - Emerald	200.3	84.6	-57.8
41	Brisbane - Mount Isa	142.4	81.8	-42.5
42	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	171.1	81.6	-52.3
43	Launceston - Sydney	276.6	75.4	-72.7
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	314.7	73.8	-76.5
45	Melbourne - Newcastle	461.8	68.9	-85.1
46	Adelaide - Alice Springs	138.1	65.2	-52.8
47	Brisbane - Launceston	..	63.9	NA (a)
48	Adelaide - Canberra	188.5	62.7	-66.8
49	Dubbo - Sydney	175.8	47.2	-73.2
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	176.0	38.6	-78.0

continued

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

	City-Pair	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	%Change
51	Darwin - Perth	169.3	36.8	-78.2
52	Albury - Sydney	219.8	36.4	-83.4
53	Hamilton Island - Sydney	214.7	30.8	-85.6
54	Darwin - Sydney	304.5	..	NA
55	Darwin - Melbourne	305.2	..	NA
56	Melbourne - Mildura	223.0	..	NA
57	Port Macquarie - Sydney	185.1	..	NA
58	Sydney - Tamworth	169.6	..	NA
59	Ayers Rock - Sydney	183.3	..	NA
60	Brisbane - Bundaberg	149.3	..	NA
61	Cairns - Townsville	137.8	..	NA
62	Sydney - Townsville	167.5	..	NA
63	Armidale - Sydney	119.2	..	NA
64	Hamilton Island - Melbourne	33.8	..	NA
	Total domestic network	59 288.7	12 978.2	-78.1

(a) Brisbane - Launceston route included from March 2021, prior data not shown.

.. Data not available for release.

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

	City-Pair	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	416.3	341.3	-18.0
2	Brisbane - Sydney	228.4	189.9	-16.8
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	168.9	131.3	-22.2
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	130.8	120.1	-8.2
5	Gold Coast - Melbourne	102.0	108.8	6.7
6	Adelaide - Melbourne	129.4	87.8	-32.1
7	Adelaide - Sydney	99.2	85.8	-13.5
8	Brisbane - Cairns	61.1	72.0	17.9
9	Hobart - Melbourne	90.5	66.6	-26.4
10	Brisbane - Townsville	56.2	59.0	4.9
11	Perth - Sydney	94.9	58.2	-38.6
12	Brisbane - Mackay	44.9	48.4	7.8
13	Adelaide - Brisbane	45.5	46.6	2.6
14	Ballina - Sydney	22.6	44.9	98.9
15	Launceston - Melbourne	51.2	43.8	-14.5
16	Hobart - Sydney	40.1	42.4	5.7
17	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	28.6	40.3	41.0
18	Brisbane - Canberra	32.3	37.9	17.3
19	Brisbane - Perth	56.7	37.9	-33.1
20	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	31.3	37.8	20.8
21	Melbourne - Perth	117.2	36.5	-68.9
22	Canberra - Melbourne	57.9	35.9	-37.9
23	Karratha - Perth	27.6	34.3	24.3
24	Brisbane - Rockhampton	29.6	34.1	15.3
25	Cairns - Melbourne	33.1	31.7	-4.2
26	Newman - Perth	19.5	30.8	58.2
27	Perth - Port Hedland	27.9	30.4	9.0
28	Adelaide - Perth	35.3	30.2	-14.4
29	Brisbane - Newcastle	29.5	29.8	0.8
30	Cairns - Sydney	43.4	29.1	-32.8
31	Launceston - Sydney	16.6	23.7	43.0
32	Canberra - Sydney	43.0	22.8	-47.0
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	16.9	22.6	33.9
34	Broome - Perth	11.1	22.5	102.6
35	Melbourne - Newcastle	23.1	21.9	-5.2
36	Brisbane - Hobart	14.1	20.8	47.4
37	Brisbane - Darwin	15.1	20.2	33.4
38	Brisbane - Proserpine	13.7	19.7	44.3
39	Hamilton Island - Sydney	11.8	16.8	41.7
40	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	6.6	16.0	143.1
41	Adelaide - Gold Coast	11.6	15.8	36.0
42	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	16.4	15.6	-4.4
43	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	11.2	13.2	18.0
44	Brisbane - Gladstone	13.3	12.8	-3.6
45	Brisbane - Emerald	13.1	12.8	-2.3
46	Brisbane - Launceston	..	12.5	NA (a)
47	Adelaide - Canberra	10.1	12.1	19.5
48	Albury - Sydney	12.1	9.9	-18.7
49	Adelaide - Alice Springs	7.2	9.8	37.7
50	Dubbo - Sydney	9.9	9.6	-3.1

continued

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

	City-Pair	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
51	Brisbane - Mount Isa	9.1	9.2	1.2
52	Darwin - Perth	8.9	8.6	-3.8
53	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	9.3	8.5	-8.9
54	Darwin - Sydney	16.6	..	NA
55	Darwin - Melbourne	14.8	..	NA
56	Melbourne - Mildura	12.2	..	NA
57	Port Macquarie - Sydney	10.3	..	NA
58	Sydney - Tamworth	9.0	..	NA
59	Ayers Rock - Sydney	8.2	..	NA
60	Brisbane - Bundaberg	8.2	..	NA
61	Cairns - Townsville	8.0	..	NA
62	Sydney - Townsville	6.6	..	NA
63	Armidale - Sydney	5.6	..	NA
64	Hamilton Island - Melbourne	3.7	..	NA
	Total domestic network	3 073.8	2 799.6	-8.9

(a) Brisbane - Launceston route included from March 2021, prior data not shown.

.. Data not available for release.

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

	City-Pair	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	650.2	540.1	-16.9
2	Brisbane - Sydney	362.0	298.1	-17.6
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	274.1	180.2	-34.3
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	185.2	154.3	-16.7
5	Gold Coast - Melbourne	141.2	131.6	-6.8
6	Adelaide - Melbourne	205.1	106.5	-48.1
7	Adelaide - Sydney	152.0	131.6	-13.4
8	Brisbane - Cairns	92.2	104.3	13.1
9	Hobart - Melbourne	138.6	94.0	-32.2
10	Brisbane - Townsville	86.6	88.8	2.5
11	Perth - Sydney	146.4	94.8	-35.3
12	Brisbane - Mackay	69.9	73.6	5.3
13	Adelaide - Brisbane	72.9	74.3	1.9
14	Ballina - Sydney	33.3	63.1	89.5
15	Launceston - Melbourne	76.0	66.2	-13.0
16	Hobart - Sydney	58.5	68.8	17.7
17	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	37.8	51.5	36.2
18	Brisbane - Canberra	57.1	70.2	23.0
19	Brisbane - Perth	85.0	58.6	-31.1
20	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	45.9	50.8	10.7
21	Melbourne - Perth	179.5	48.6	-72.9
22	Canberra - Melbourne	118.8	51.7	-56.5
23	Karratha - Perth	58.2	64.2	10.2
24	Brisbane - Rockhampton	51.2	51.2	0.1
25	Cairns - Melbourne	48.5	40.4	-16.7
26	Newman - Perth	40.0	62.9	57.2
27	Perth - Port Hedland	52.6	51.3	-2.4
28	Adelaide - Perth	56.8	49.2	-13.4
29	Brisbane - Newcastle	50.8	48.2	-5.1
30	Cairns - Sydney	70.2	38.4	-45.3
31	Launceston - Sydney	22.7	34.3	51.0
32	Canberra - Sydney	79.6	34.0	-57.3
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	36.6	36.0	-1.7
34	Broome - Perth	19.3	34.9	80.5
35	Melbourne - Newcastle	33.4	36.5	9.2
36	Brisbane - Hobart	19.6	28.0	43.2
37	Brisbane - Darwin	23.0	27.5	19.5
38	Brisbane - Proserpine	21.0	25.9	23.3
39	Hamilton Island - Sydney	19.1	24.7	29.2
40	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	12.1	25.5	110.8
41	Adelaide - Gold Coast	16.3	20.4	25.1
42	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	28.5	26.5	-7.1
43	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	19.2	18.3	-4.5
44	Brisbane - Gladstone	28.1	21.7	-22.7
45	Brisbane - Emerald	22.9	22.5	-1.6
46	Brisbane - Launceston	..	16.3	NA (a)
47	Adelaide - Canberra	20.3	18.5	-8.8
48	Albury - Sydney	23.1	17.0	-26.4
49	Adelaide - Alice Springs	15.5	16.7	7.6
50	Dubbo - Sydney	19.9	17.8	-10.6

continued

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

	City-Pair	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
51	Brisbane - Mount Isa	14.8	21.7	46.4
52	Darwin - Perth	18.5	17.2	-6.9
53	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	18.9	15.9	-16.0
54	Darwin - Sydney	26.8	..	NA
55	Darwin - Melbourne	22.1	..	NA
56	Melbourne - Mildura	25.0	..	NA
57	Port Macquarie - Sydney	17.7	..	NA
58	Sydney - Tamworth	18.9	..	NA
59	Ayers Rock - Sydney	16.2	..	NA
60	Brisbane - Bundaberg	15.8	..	NA
61	Cairns - Townsville	19.5	..	NA
62	Sydney - Townsville	10.0	..	NA
63	Armidale - Sydney	12.3	..	NA
64	Hamilton Island - Melbourne	6.6	..	NA
	Total domestic network	5 032.2	4 251.6	-15.5

(a) Brisbane - Launceston route included from March 2021, prior data not shown.

.. Data not available for release.

Table 4: Load factors (%) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Point diff
1	Melbourne - Sydney	64.1	63.1	-1.0
2	Brisbane - Sydney	63.1	63.7	0.6
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	61.6	72.9	11.3
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	70.7	77.9	7.2
5	Gold Coast - Melbourne	72.2	82.7	10.5
6	Adelaide - Melbourne	63.1	82.5	19.4
7	Adelaide - Sydney	65.3	65.2	-0.1
8	Brisbane - Cairns	66.2	69.0	2.8
9	Hobart - Melbourne	65.3	70.9	5.6
10	Brisbane - Townsville	64.9	66.4	1.5
11	Perth - Sydney	64.8	61.4	-3.4
12	Brisbane - Mackay	64.2	65.7	1.5
13	Adelaide - Brisbane	62.3	62.8	0.5
14	Ballina - Sydney	67.7	71.1	3.4
15	Launceston - Melbourne	67.4	66.2	-1.2
16	Hobart - Sydney	68.6	61.6	-7.0
17	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	75.6	78.3	2.7
18	Brisbane - Canberra	56.6	54.0	-2.6
19	Brisbane - Perth	66.7	64.8	-1.9
20	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	68.1	74.4	6.3
21	Melbourne - Perth	65.3	75.1	9.8
22	Canberra - Melbourne	48.7	69.6	20.9
23	Karratha - Perth	47.4	53.5	6.1
24	Brisbane - Rockhampton	57.8	66.6	8.8
25	Cairns - Melbourne	68.2	78.5	10.3
26	Newman - Perth	48.7	49.0	0.3
27	Perth - Port Hedland	53.0	59.3	6.3
28	Adelaide - Perth	62.1	61.4	-0.7
29	Brisbane - Newcastle	58.1	61.7	3.6
30	Cairns - Sydney	61.8	75.9	14.1
31	Launceston - Sydney	72.9	69.0	-3.9
32	Canberra - Sydney	54.0	66.9	12.9
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	46.2	62.9	16.7
34	Broome - Perth	57.5	64.6	7.1
35	Melbourne - Newcastle	69.2	60.0	-9.2
36	Brisbane - Hobart	72.2	74.3	2.1
37	Brisbane - Darwin	65.7	73.3	7.6
38	Brisbane - Proserpine	65.1	76.2	11.1
39	Hamilton Island - Sydney	62.0	68.0	6.0
40	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	54.5	62.8	8.3
41	Adelaide - Gold Coast	71.2	77.4	6.2
42	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	57.3	59.0	1.7
43	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	58.2	71.9	13.7
44	Brisbane - Gladstone	47.3	58.9	11.6
45	Brisbane - Emerald	57.1	56.7	-0.4
46	Brisbane - Launceston	..	76.2	NA (a)
47	Adelaide - Canberra	49.9	65.4	15.5
48	Albury - Sydney	52.6	58.2	5.6
49	Adelaide - Alice Springs	46.2	59.1	12.9
50	Dubbo - Sydney	49.6	53.8	4.2

continued

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

	City-Pair	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Point diff
51	Brisbane - Mount Isa	61.4	42.4	-19.0
52	Darwin - Perth	48.2	49.8	1.6
53	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	49.5	53.7	4.2
54	Darwin - Sydney	62.0	..	NA
55	Darwin - Melbourne	66.8	..	NA
56	Melbourne - Mildura	49.0	..	NA
57	Port Macquarie - Sydney	58.2	..	NA
58	Sydney - Tamworth	47.7	..	NA
59	Ayers Rock - Sydney	50.8	..	NA
60	Brisbane - Bundaberg	52.1	..	NA
61	Cairns - Townsville	40.9	..	NA
62	Sydney - Townsville	66.1	..	NA
63	Armidale - Sydney	45.3	..	NA
64	Hamilton Island - Melbourne	55.6	..	NA
	Total domestic network	62.7	66.7	4.0

(a) Brisbane - Launceston route included from March 2021, prior data not shown.

.. Data not available for release.

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

	City-Pair	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	3 726	3 276	-12.1
2	Brisbane - Sydney	2 252	1 909	-15.2
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	1 663	1 096	-34.1
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	1 066	880	-17.4
5	Gold Coast - Melbourne	754	689	-8.6
6	Adelaide - Melbourne	1 291	706	-45.3
7	Adelaide - Sydney	902	798	-11.5
8	Brisbane - Cairns	675	675	0.0
9	Hobart - Melbourne	772	588	-23.8
10	Brisbane - Townsville	599	536	-10.5
11	Perth - Sydney	664	483	-27.3
12	Brisbane - Mackay	569	517	-9.1
13	Adelaide - Brisbane	422	456	8.1
14	Ballina - Sydney	218	480	120.2
15	Launceston - Melbourne	618	534	-13.6
16	Hobart - Sydney	356	390	9.6
17	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	212	320	50.9
18	Brisbane - Canberra	422	478	13.3
19	Brisbane - Perth	464	291	-37.3
20	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	297	328	10.4
21	Melbourne - Perth	899	343	-61.8
22	Canberra - Melbourne	764	390	-49.0
23	Karratha - Perth	409	388	-5.1
24	Brisbane - Rockhampton	557	494	-11.3
25	Cairns - Melbourne	253	218	-13.8
26	Newman - Perth	266	377	41.7
27	Perth - Port Hedland	394	371	-5.8
28	Adelaide - Perth	380	316	-16.8
29	Brisbane - Newcastle	376	333	-11.4
30	Cairns - Sydney	362	220	-39.2
31	Launceston - Sydney	126	198	57.1
32	Canberra - Sydney	1 071	426	-60.2
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	309	272	-12.0
34	Broome - Perth	172	240	39.5
35	Melbourne - Newcastle	184	215	16.8
36	Brisbane - Hobart	110	172	56.4
37	Brisbane - Darwin	151	174	15.2
38	Brisbane - Proserpine	118	144	22.0
39	Hamilton Island - Sydney	121	139	14.9
40	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	97	157	61.9
41	Adelaide - Gold Coast	91	114	25.3
42	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	357	350	-2.0
43	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	500	454	-9.2
44	Brisbane - Gladstone	372	285	-23.4
45	Brisbane - Emerald	349	346	-0.9
46	Brisbane - Launceston	..	90	NA (a)
47	Adelaide - Canberra	123	112	-8.9
48	Albury - Sydney	435	291	-33.1
49	Adelaide - Alice Springs	114	140	22.8
50	Dubbo - Sydney	449	355	-20.9

continued

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

	City-Pair	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
51	Brisbane - Mount Isa	122	137	12.3
52	Darwin - Perth	108	108	0.0
53	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	385	268	-30.4
54	Darwin - Sydney	146	..	NA
55	Darwin - Melbourne	126	..	NA
56	Melbourne - Mildura	342	..	NA
57	Port Macquarie - Sydney	317	..	NA
58	Sydney - Tamworth	315	..	NA
59	Ayers Rock - Sydney	91	..	NA
60	Brisbane - Bundaberg	253	..	NA
61	Cairns - Townsville	320	..	NA
62	Sydney - Townsville	58	..	NA
63	Armidale - Sydney	296	..	NA
64	Hamilton Island - Melbourne	38	..	NA
	Total domestic network	43 127	37 072	-14.0

(a) Includes RPT cargo flights

(b) Brisbane - Launceston route included from March 2021, prior data not shown.

.. Data not available for release.

TOP TEN AIRPORTS – PASSENGER MOVEMENTS

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

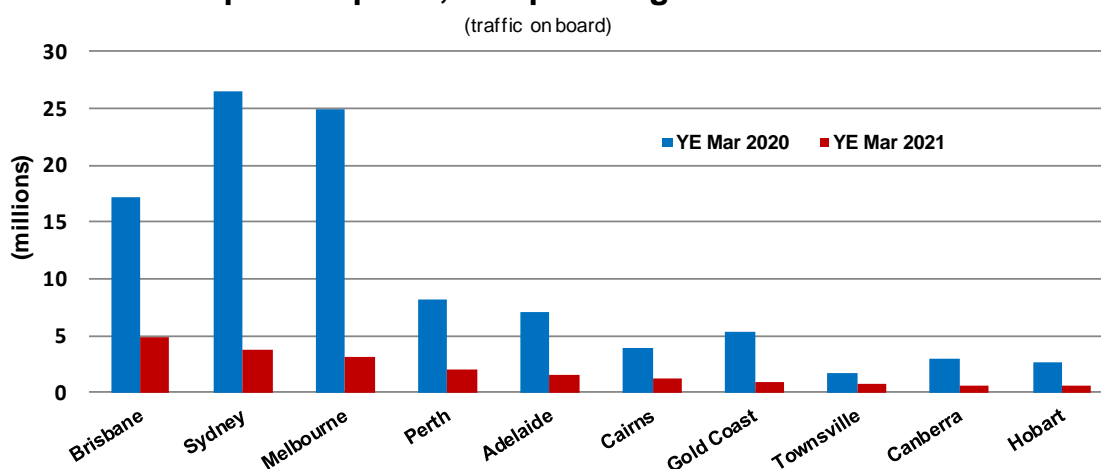
Airport	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change	% of Total
1 Sydney	1 323.8	1 120.4	-15.4	20.0
2 Melbourne	1 252.9	973.6	-22.3	17.4
3 Brisbane	885.4	853.6	-3.6	15.2
4 Perth	467.0	378.4	-19.0	6.8
5 Adelaide	386.7	343.8	-11.1	6.1
6 Gold Coast	265.9	281.1	5.7	5.0
7 Cairns	181.8	185.3	1.9	3.3
8 Hobart	153.0	153.4	0.3	2.7
9 Canberra	151.8	130.5	-14.0	2.3
10 Townsville	87.4	93.6	7.2	1.7
Total top ten airports	5 155.6	4 513.9	-12.4	80.6
Total domestic network	6 147.5	5 599.1	-8.9	100.0

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

Airport	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change	% of Total
1 Brisbane	17 092.5	4 841.8	-71.7	18.7
2 Sydney	26 455.7	3 775.9	-85.7	14.5
3 Melbourne	24 935.6	3 196.0	-87.2	12.3
4 Perth	8 113.4	2 010.7	-75.2	7.7
5 Adelaide	7 132.6	1 599.4	-77.6	6.2
6 Cairns	3 984.6	1 309.4	-67.1	5.0
7 Gold Coast	5 400.6	970.2	-82.0	3.7
8 Townsville	1 631.8	685.2	-58.0	2.6
9 Canberra	3 040.1	618.0	-79.7	2.4
10 Hobart	2 693.9	595.4	-77.9	2.3
Total top ten airports	100 481.0	19 602.1	-80.5	75.5
Total domestic network	118 577.4	25 956.4	-78.1	100.0

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

Top ten airports, RPT passenger movements



TOP FIVE AIRPORTS – CARGO MOVEMENTS

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

Airport	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change	% of Total
1 Sydney	8.1	8.8	9.0	24.3
2 Melbourne	9.9	8.7	-12.1	24.0
3 Brisbane	6.1	6.3	3.6	17.5
4 Perth	4.6	3.1	-32.3	8.6
5 Adelaide	2.4	2.2	-5.6	6.2
Total top five airports	31.1	29.2	-6.1	80.6
Total domestic network	37.4	36.2	-3.2	100.0

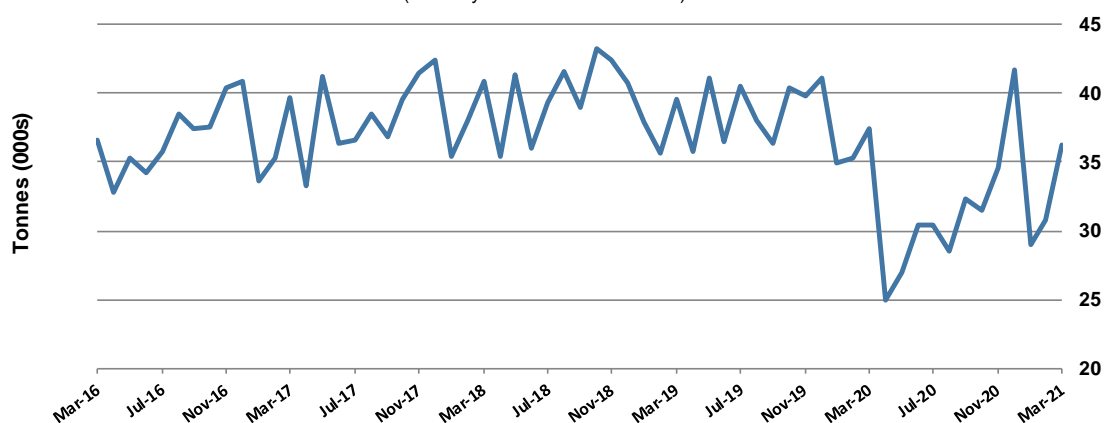
Table 9: Top five airports, domestic RPT cargo movements (000s tonnes) - annual activity

Airport	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change	% of Total
1 Melbourne	120.0	96.5	-19.6	25.6
2 Sydney	99.1	83.6	-15.7	22.1
3 Brisbane	73.3	67.2	-8.3	17.8
4 Perth	60.2	32.2	-46.5	8.5
5 Adelaide	28.3	22.9	-19.0	6.1
Total top five airports	380.8	302.4	-20.6	80.1
Total domestic network	457.3	377.6	-17.4	100.0

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

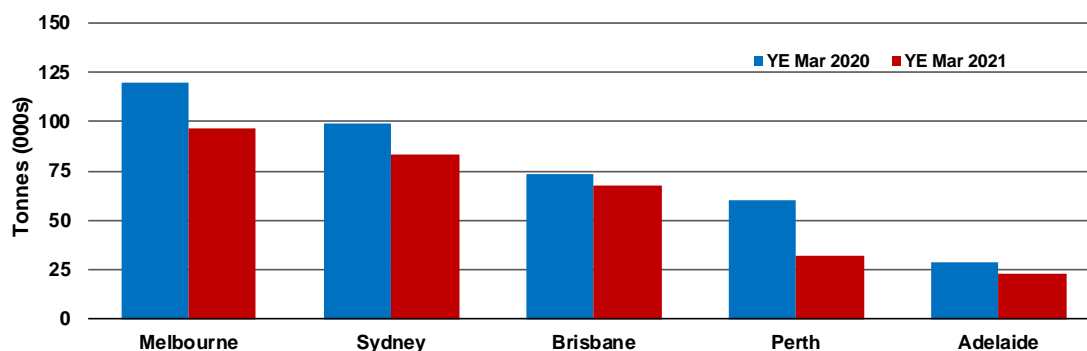
Total domestic network - cargo movement

(monthly totals - traffic on board)



Top five airports, cargo movements

(Domestic cargo traffic - traffic on board)



TOP TEN ROUTES

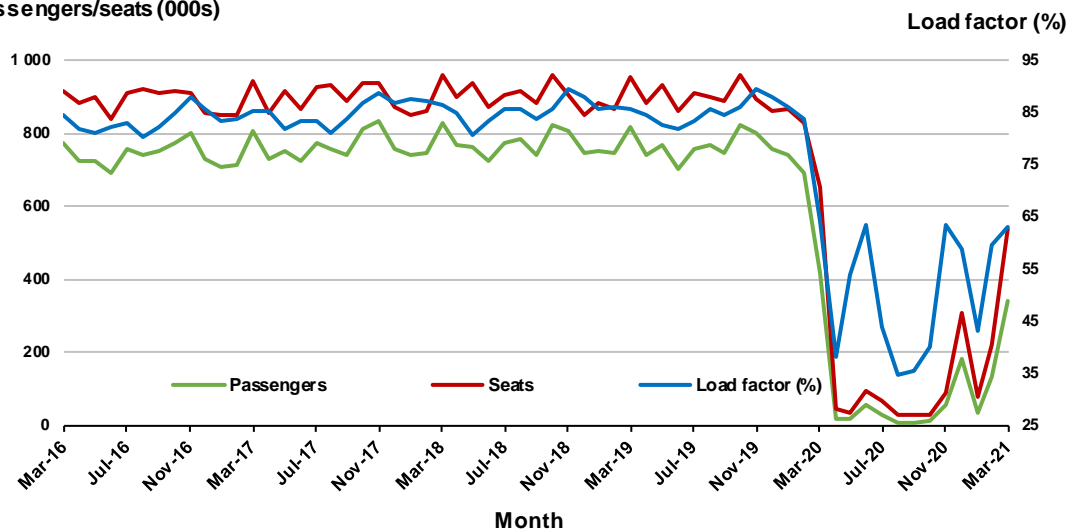
1. Melbourne - Sydney

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	416.3	341.3	-18.0
Seats (000s)	650.2	540.1	-16.9
Load factor %	64.1	63.1	-1.0 *
Aircraft trips	3 726	3 276	-12.1

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

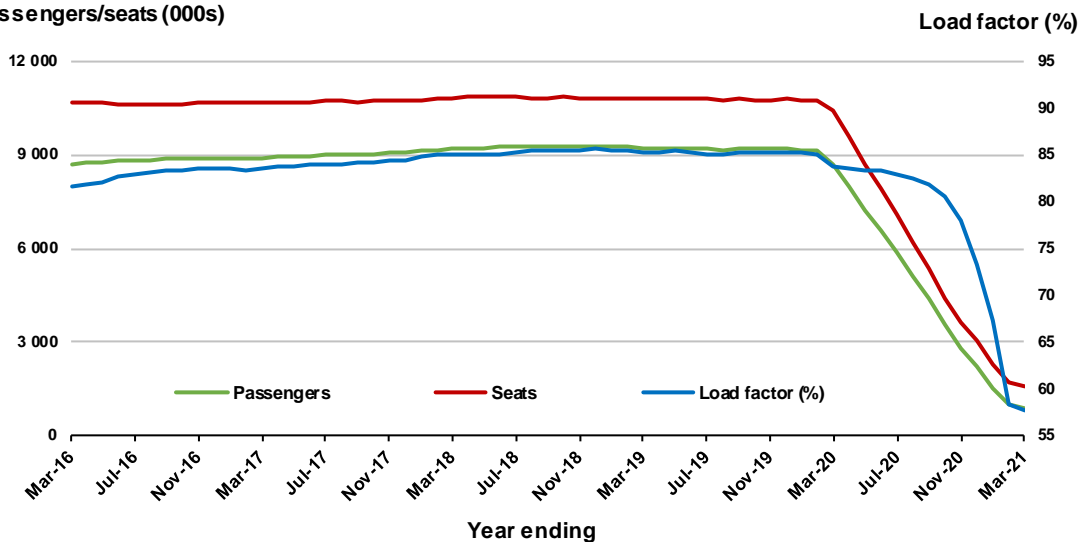


Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	8 719.1	905.6	-89.6
Seats (000s)	10 418.5	1 569.3	-84.9
Load factor %	83.7	57.7	-26.0 *
Aircraft trips	58 658	11 123	-81.0

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

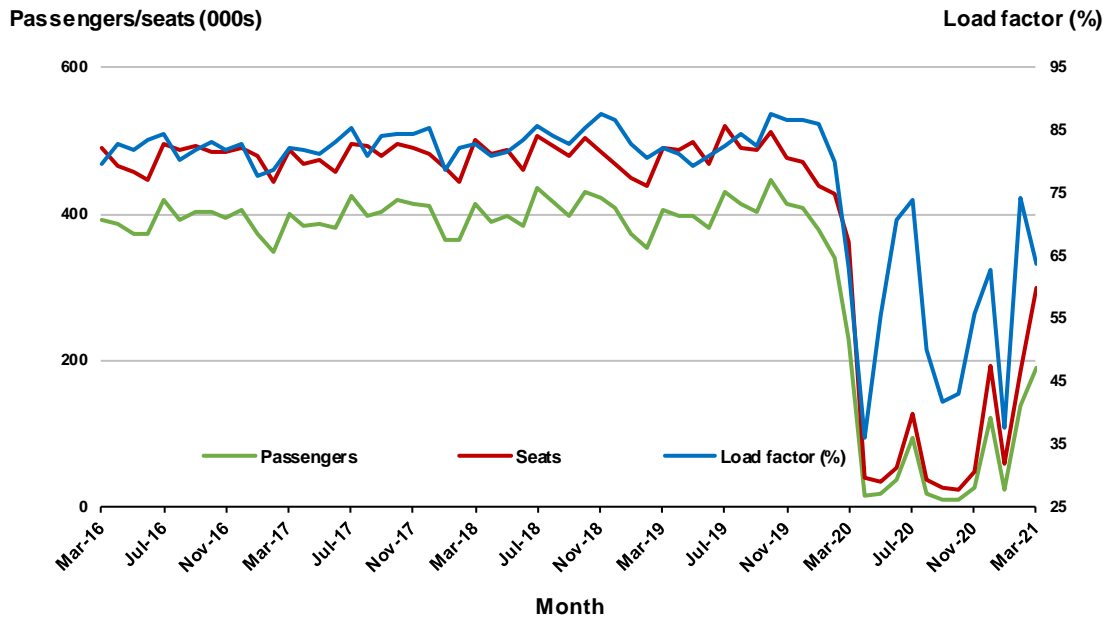


2. Brisbane - Sydney

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	228.4	189.9	-16.8
Seats (000s)	362.0	298.1	-17.6
Load factor %	63.1	63.7	0.6 *
Aircraft trips	2 252	1 909	-15.2

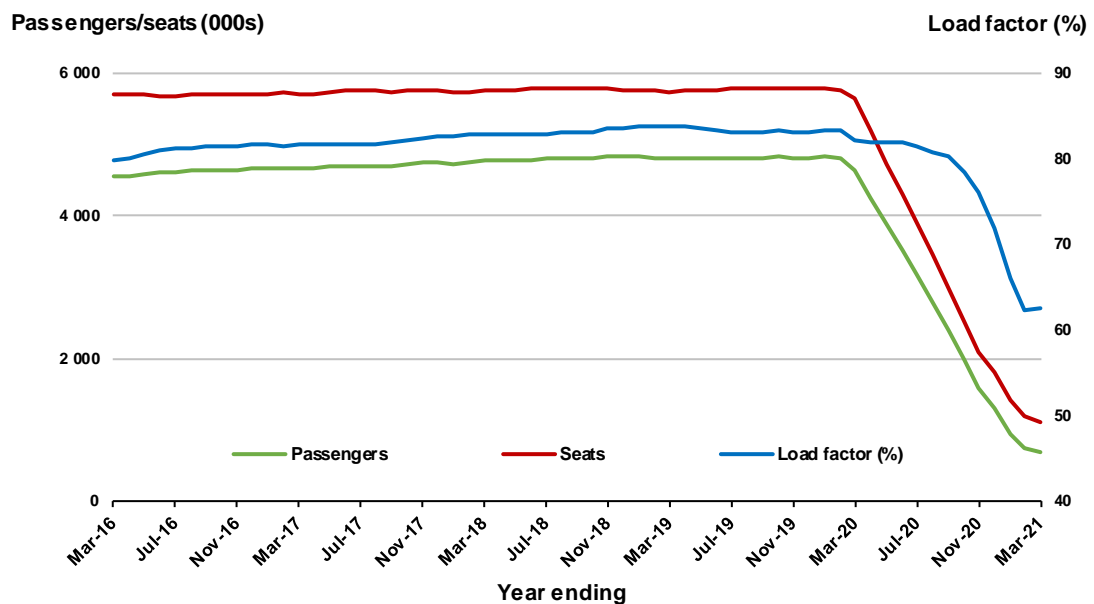
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	4 637.1	702.8	-84.8
Seats (000s)	5 644.2	1 124.5	-80.1
Load factor %	82.2	62.5	-19.7 *
Aircraft trips	34 378	8 706	-74.7

* percentage point difference

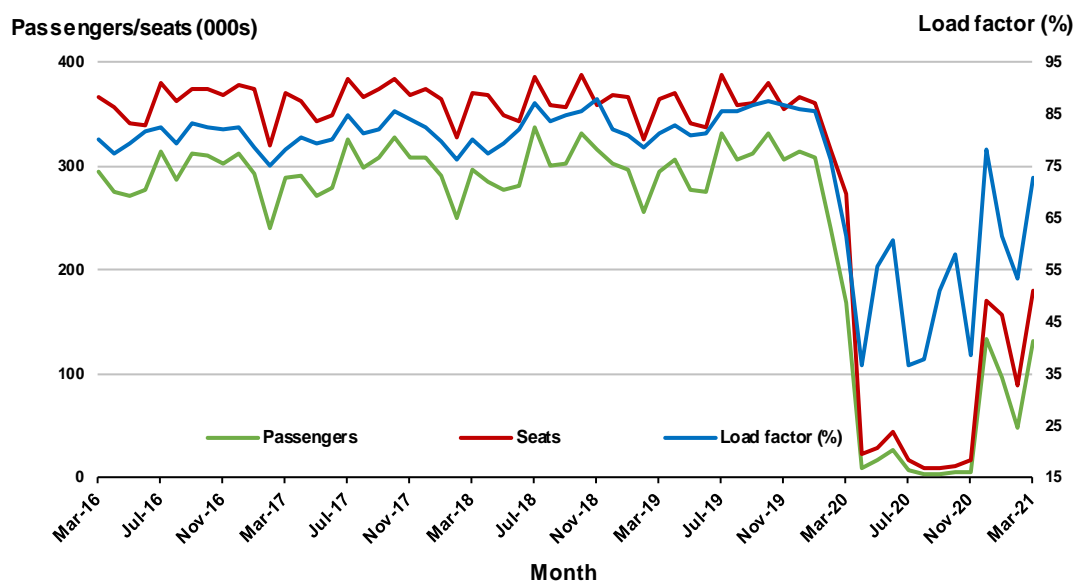


3. Brisbane - Melbourne

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	168.9	131.3	-22.2
Seats (000s)	274.1	180.2	-34.3
Load factor %	61.6	72.9	11.3 *
Aircraft trips	1 663	1 096	-34.1

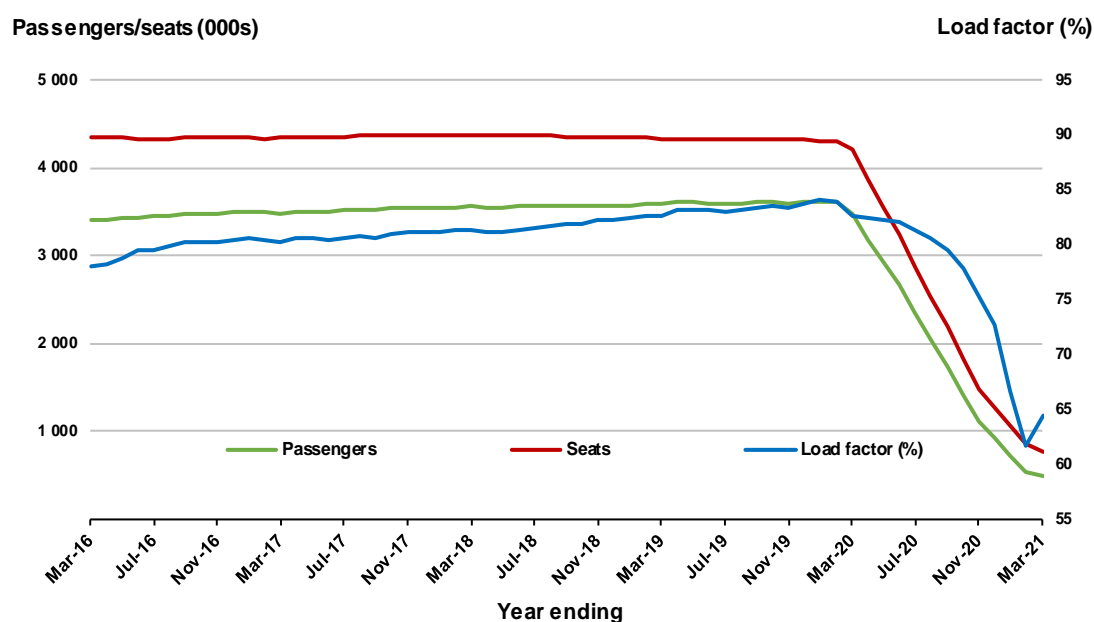
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	3 478.2	486.0	-86.0
Seats (000s)	4 206.7	754.5	-82.1
Load factor %	82.7	64.4	-18.3 *
Aircraft trips	24 802	5 653	-77.2

* percentage point difference

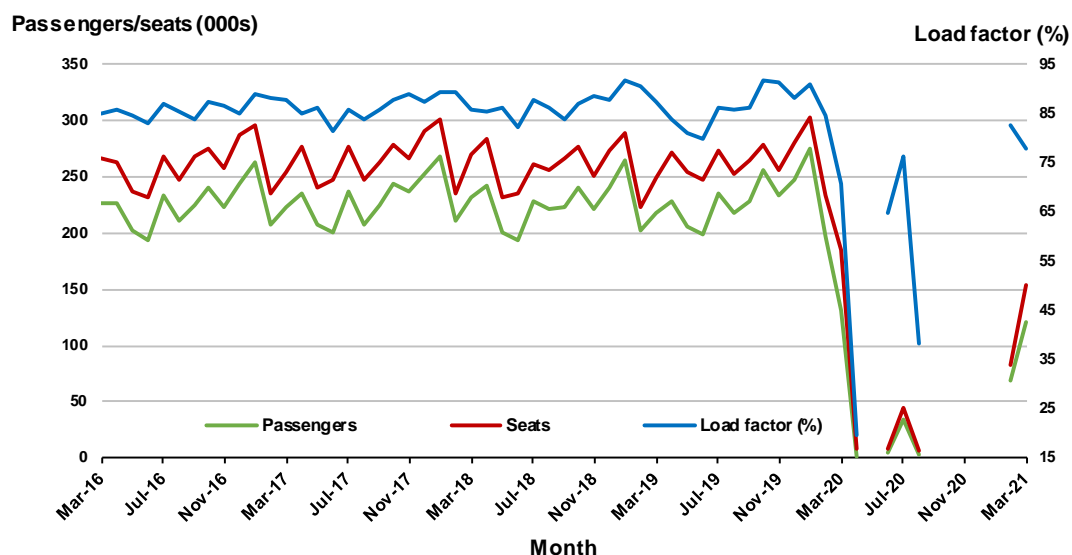


4. Gold Coast - Sydney ^(a)

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	130.8	120.1	-8.2
Seats (000s)	185.2	154.3	-16.7
Load factor %	70.7	77.9	7.2 *
Aircraft trips	1 066	880	-17.4

* percentage point difference

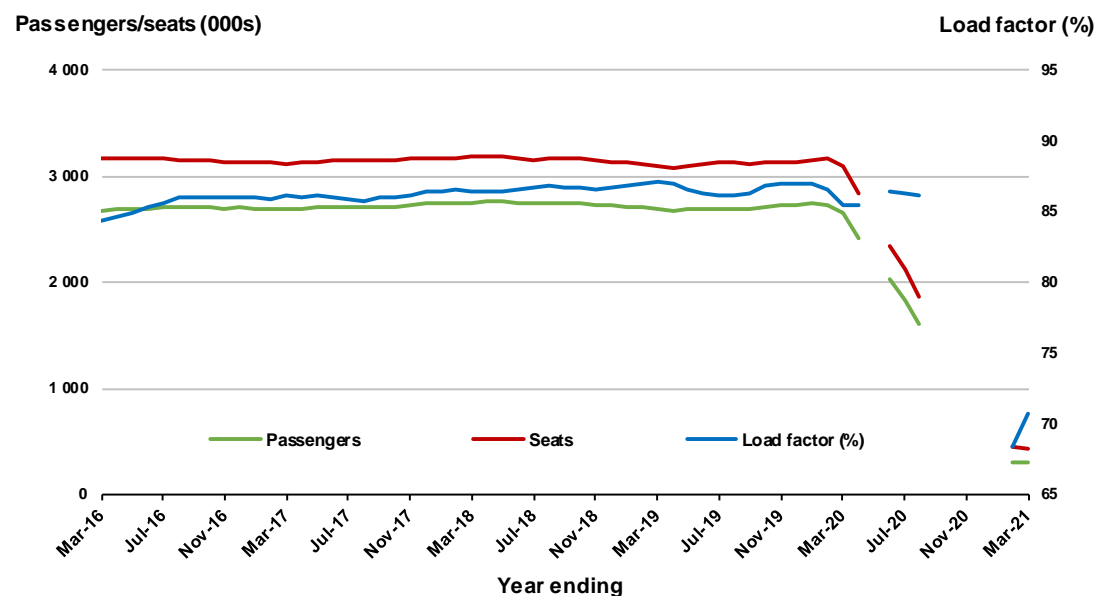


(a) May, September to November 2020 and January 2021 data not available for release

Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 652.1	303.3	-88.6
Seats (000s)	3 100.5	428.8	-86.2
Load factor %	85.5	70.7	-14.8 *
Aircraft trips	17 782	2 548	-85.7

* percentage point difference



(a) May, September to November 2020 and January 2021 moving annual totals are not available for release

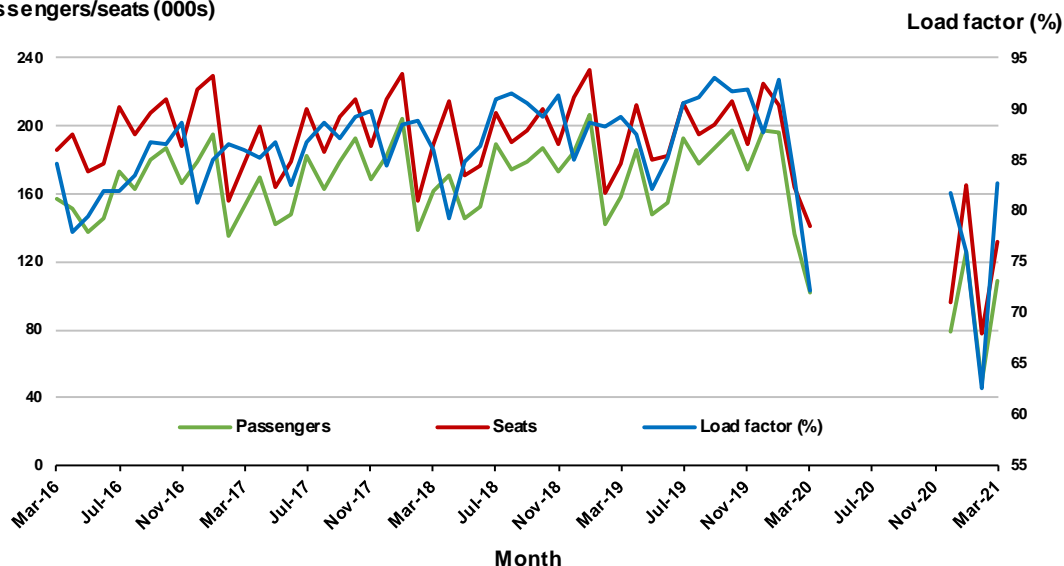
5. Gold Coast - Melbourne ^(a)

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	102.0	108.8	6.7
Seats (000s)	141.2	131.6	-6.8
Load factor %	72.2	82.7	10.5 *
Aircraft trips	754	689	-8.6

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



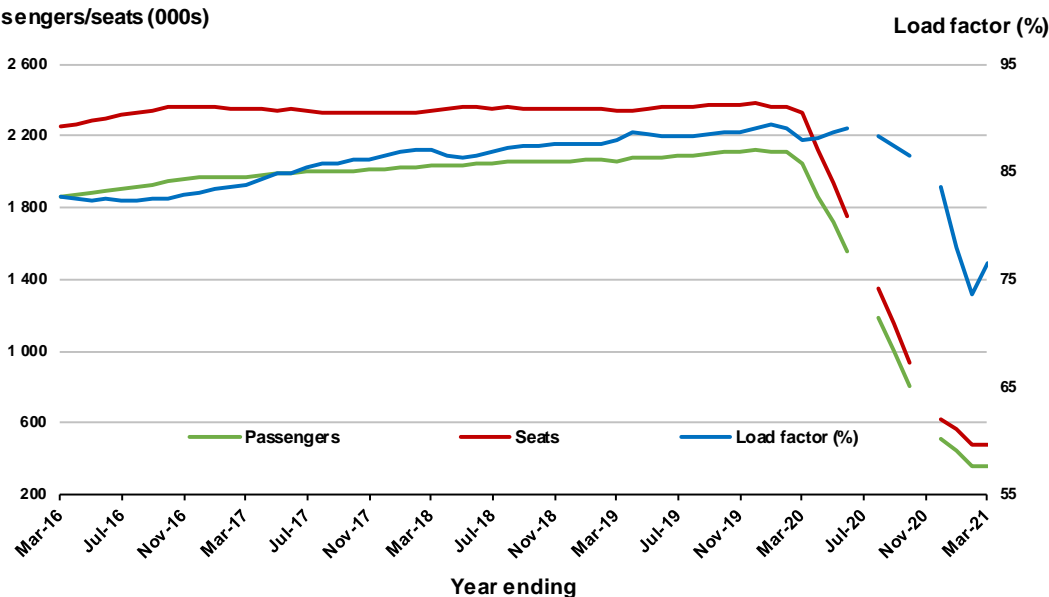
(a) April to November 2020 data not available for release

Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 050.5	362.7	-82.3
Seats (000s)	2 329.6	473.7	-79.7
Load factor %	88.0	76.6	-11.5 *
Aircraft trips	12 313	2 486	-79.8

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



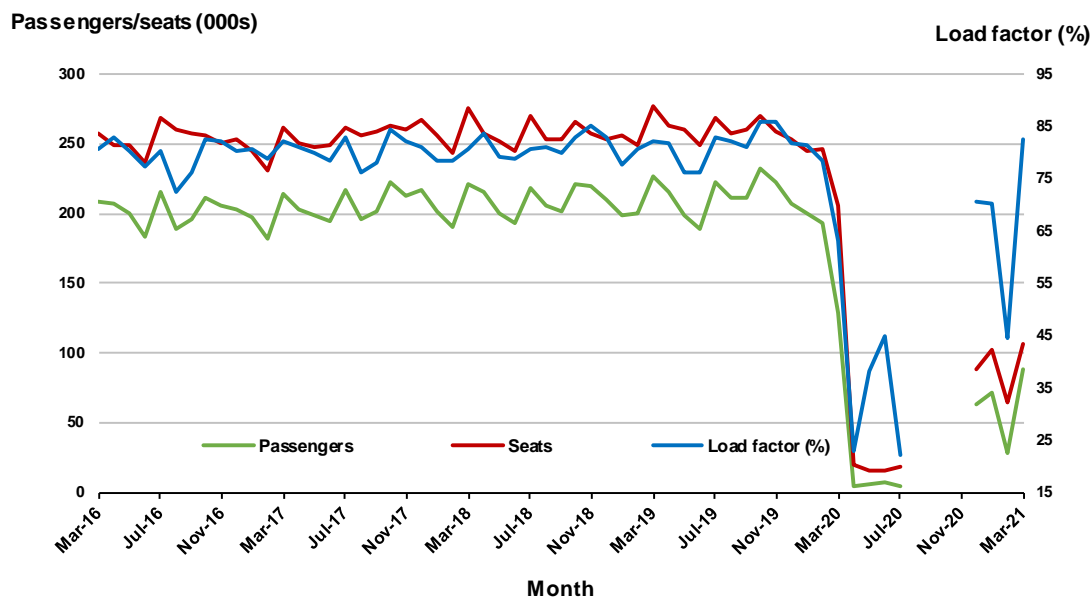
(a) April to November 2020 moving annual totals are not available for release

6. Adelaide - Melbourne ^(a)

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	129.4	87.8	-32.1
Seats (000s)	205.1	106.5	-48.1
Load factor %	63.1	82.5	19.4 *
Aircraft trips	1 291	706	-45.3

* percentage point difference

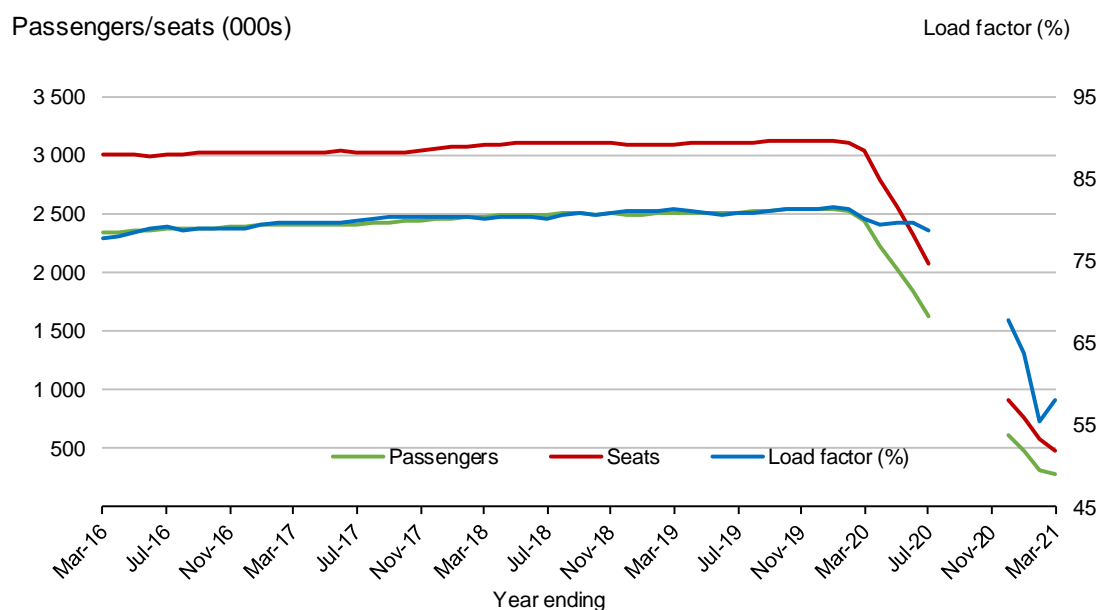


(a) August to November 2020 data not available for release

Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 433.2	280.6	-88.5
Seats (000s)	3 040.3	483.7	-84.1
Load factor %	80.0	58.0	-22.0 *
Aircraft trips	18 553	3 920	-78.9

* percentage point difference



(a) August to November 2020 moving annual totals are not available for release

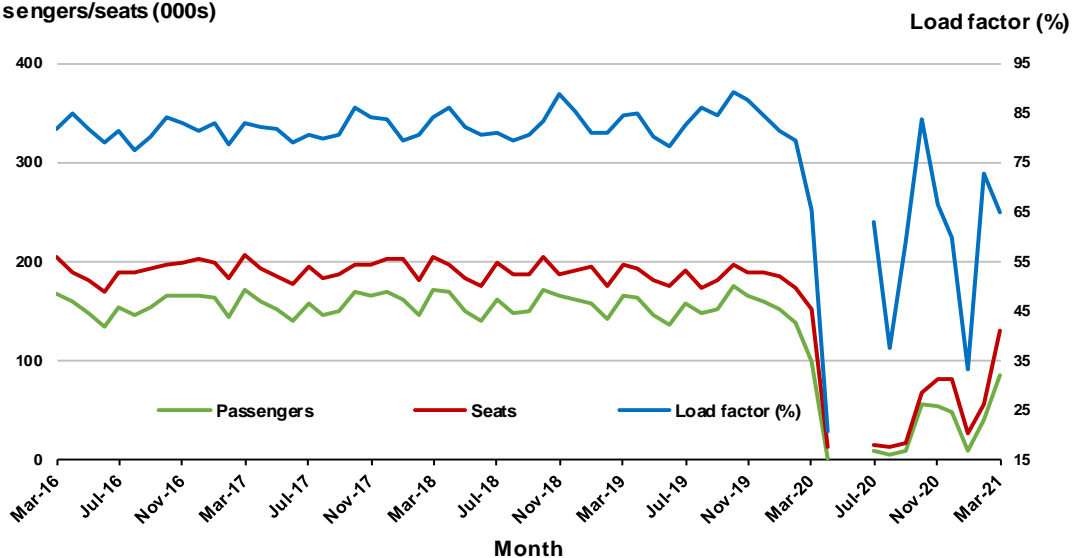
7. Adelaide - Sydney ^(a)

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	99.2	85.8	-13.5
Seats (000s)	152.0	131.6	-13.4
Load factor %	65.3	65.2	-0.1 *
Aircraft trips	902	798	-11.5

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



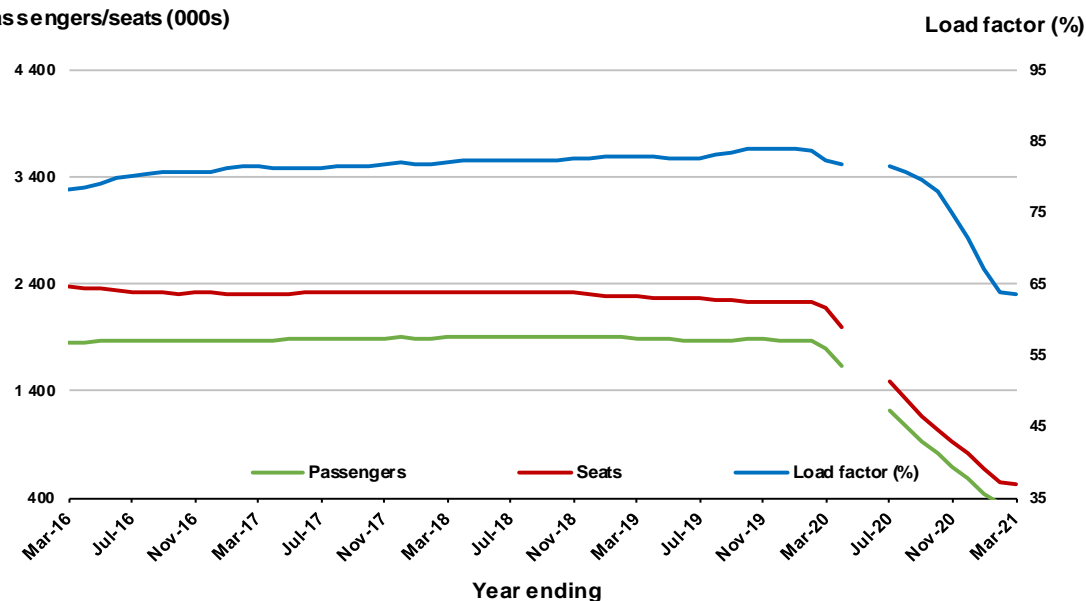
(a) May and June 2020 data not available for release

Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 800.8	336.3	-81.3
Seats (000s)	2 185.1	528.4	-75.8
Load factor %	82.4	63.6	-18.8 *
Aircraft trips	12 825	3 583	-72.1

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



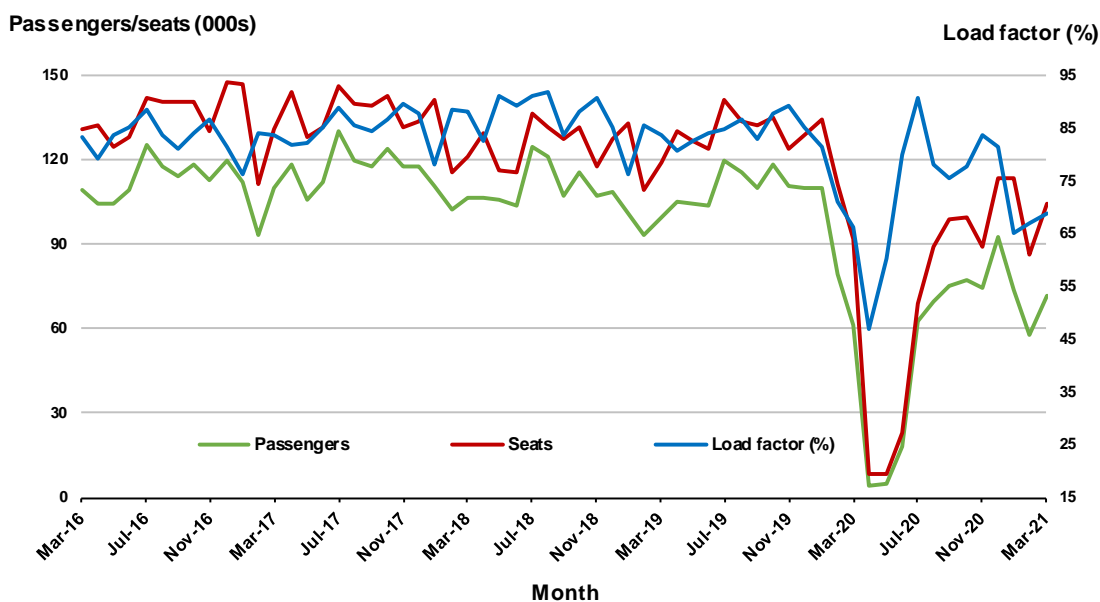
(a) May and June 2020 moving annual totals are not available for release

8. Brisbane - Cairns

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	61.1	72.0	17.9
Seats (000s)	92.2	104.3	13.1
Load factor %	66.2	69.0	2.8 *
Aircraft trips	675	675	0.0

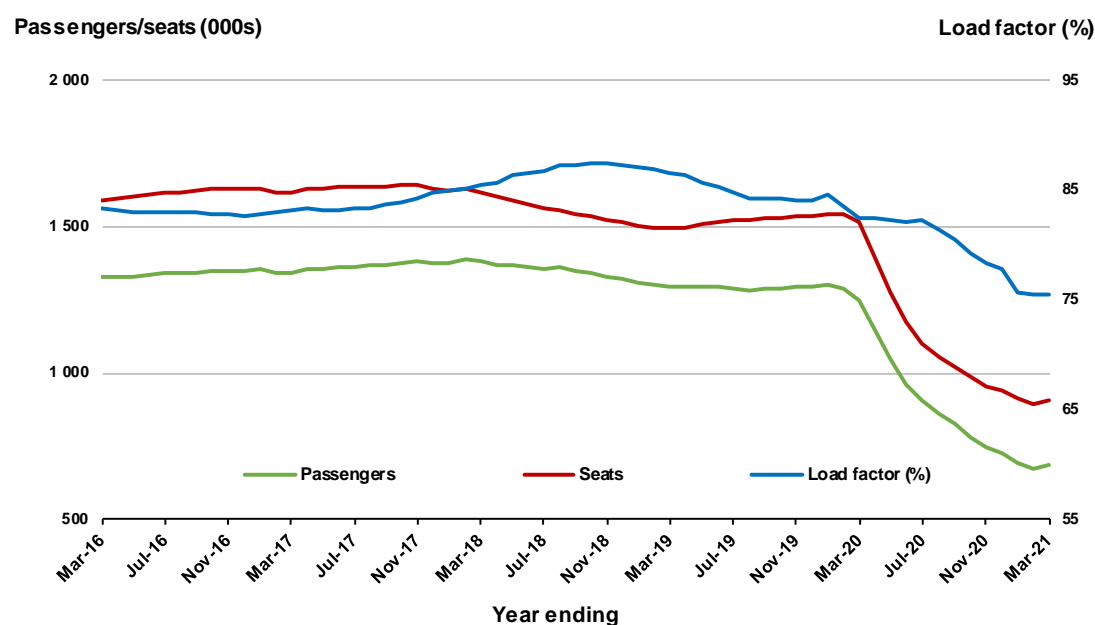
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 248.7	682.8	-45.3
Seats (000s)	1 514.3	904.5	-40.3
Load factor %	82.5	75.5	-7.0 *
Aircraft trips	10 568	6 343	-40.0

* percentage point difference



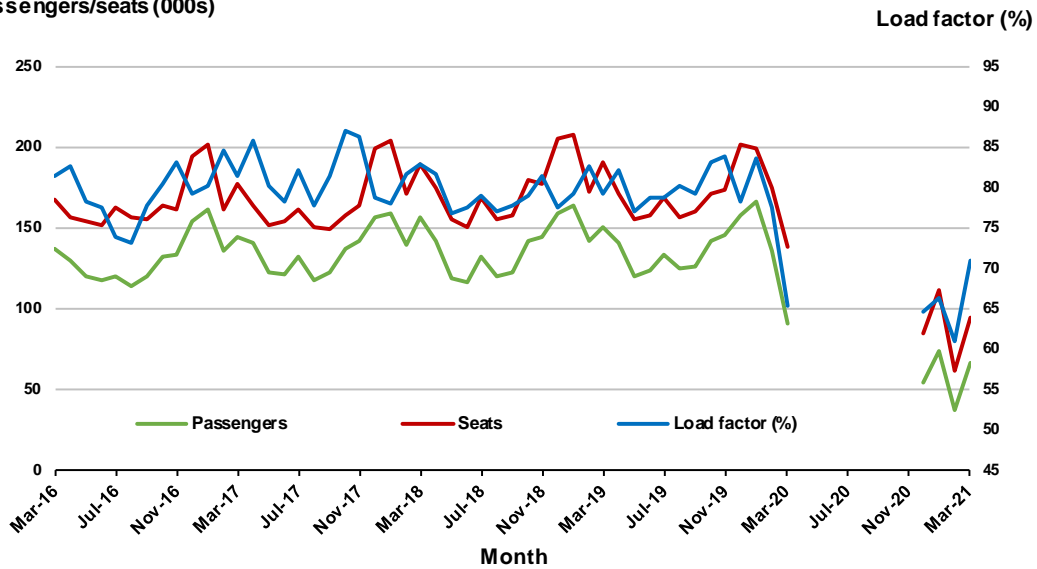
9. Melbourne - Sunshine Coast ^(a)

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	90.5	66.6	-26.4
Seats (000s)	138.6	94.0	-32.2
Load factor %	65.3	70.9	5.6 *
Aircraft trips	772	588	-23.8

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



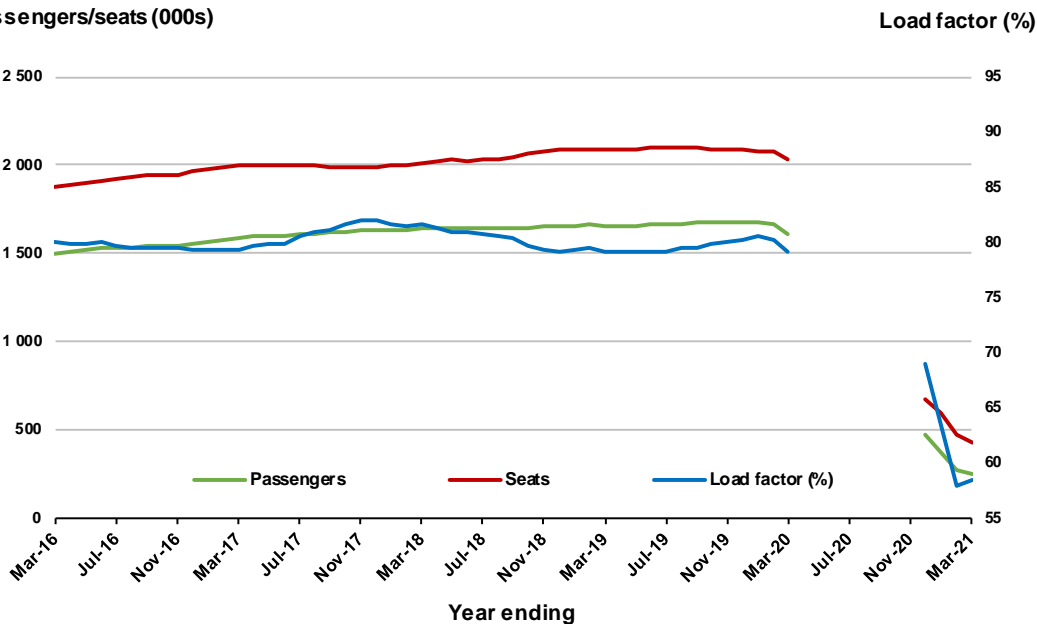
(a) May to December 2020 data not available for release

Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 605.6	251.7	-84.3
Seats (000s)	2 026.9	430.9	-78.7
Load factor %	79.2	58.4	-20.8 *
Aircraft trips	11 137	2 739	-75.4

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



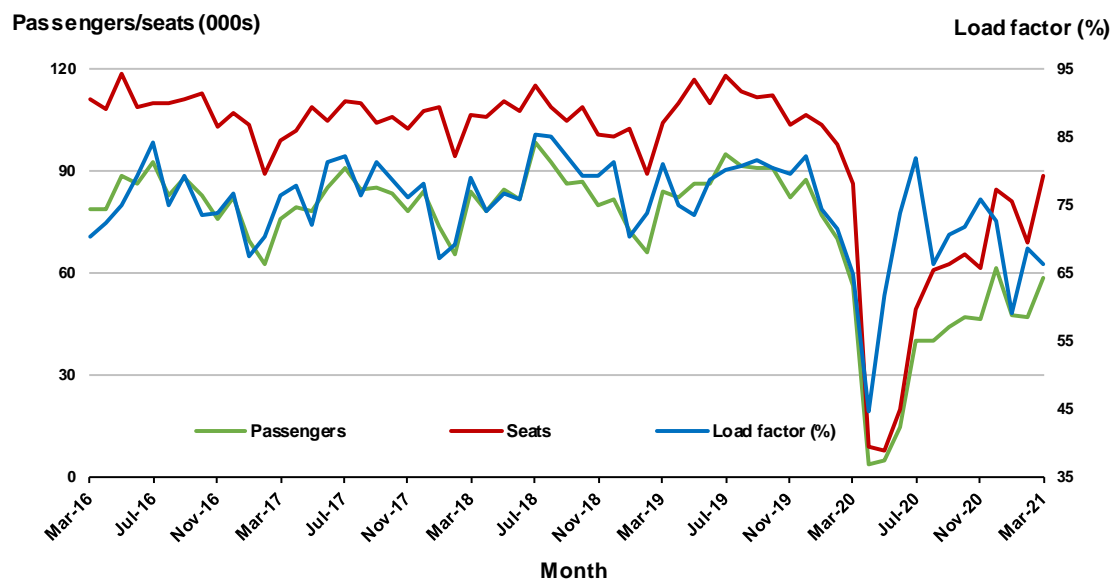
(a) May to December 2020 moving annual totals are not available for release

10. Brisbane - Townsville

Monthly data

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	56.2	59.0	4.9
Seats (000s)	86.6	88.8	2.5
Load factor %	64.9	66.4	1.5 *
Aircraft trips	599	536	-10.5

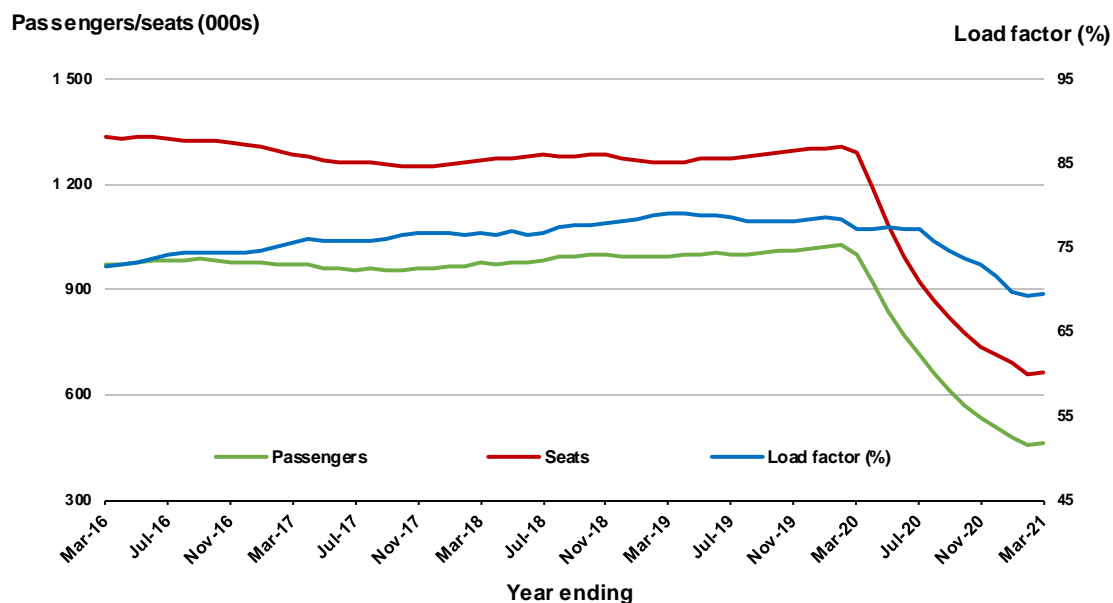
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	999.1	460.2	-53.9
Seats (000s)	1 292.6	662.7	-48.7
Load factor %	77.3	69.5	-7.8 *
Aircraft trips	8 694	4 226	-51.4

* percentage point difference



TOP FIFTY REGIONAL AIRPORTS

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

Airport	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
1 Cairns	181.8	185.3	1.9
2 Hobart	153.0	153.4	0.3
3 Townsville	87.4	93.6	7.2
4 Darwin	84.2	82.5	-2.0
5 Launceston	75.9	82.4	8.5
6 Newcastle	61.6	61.6	-0.1
7 Mackay	50.8	57.1	12.5
8 Ballina	28.4	55.7	96.0
9 Rockhampton	31.5	37.1	18.0
10 Hamilton Island	22.5	35.5	57.3
11 Karratha	27.7	34.4	24.2
12 Newman	19.5	31.0	59.0
13 Port Hedland	28.7	30.4	5.8
14 Proserpine	20.6	28.5	38.3
15 Alice Springs	24.1	25.3	4.9
16 Broome	13.6	24.3	78.2
17 Kalgoorlie	17.5	22.6	29.4
18 Paraburdoo	15.0	17.2	14.7
19 Coffs Harbour	19.4	16.5	-14.9
20 Mount Isa	15.2	16.1	6.4
21 Emerald	13.1	13.7	4.7
22 Port Lincoln	11.3	13.2	17.2
23 Gladstone	13.3	12.8	-3.6
24 Dubbo	11.7	12.6	7.8
25 Albury	13.6	10.8	-21.1
26 Ayers Rock	21.2	10.2	-51.8
27 Wagga Wagga	10.7	8.8	-17.7
28 Mildura	13.5	8.6	-36.2
29 Tamworth	9.8	8.6	-12.2
30 Port Macquarie	11.6	7.0	-39.8
31 Bundaberg	8.2	6.9	-15.7
32 Learmonth	4.4	6.9	54.8
33 Moranbah	7.7	6.6	-14.7
34 Geraldton	6.0	6.5	9.6
35 Weipa	4.8	6.5	33.6
36 Thursday Island	4.5	6.4	43.5
37 Devonport	8.1	6.3	-21.7
38 Kununurra	5.5	6.2	13.9
39 Norfolk Island	3.8	6.0	58.1
40 Orange	4.9	5.6	15.9
41 Olympic Dam	4.0	5.6	40.9
42 Hervey Bay	8.8	5.3	-39.7
43 King Island	3.7	5.2	41.1
44 Armidale	5.9	5.1	-14.1
45 Whyalla	4.3	4.7	8.0
46 Roma	5.8	4.3	-26.0
47 Gove	5.1	4.3	-15.7
48 Albany	3.7	4.1	10.9
49 Esperance	3.4	3.9	15.8
50 Merimbula	3.8	3.6	-6.1
Total top 50 regional airports	1 214.5	1 306.8	7.6
Total regional airports	1 306.0	1 392.4	6.6
Total domestic network	6 147.5	5 599.1	-8.9

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 fifty regional airports (000s) — passenger movements, annual

Airport	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
1 Cairns	4 103.5	1 305.9	-68.2
2 Townsville	1 674.8	679.0	-59.5
3 Hobart	2 785.0	595.0	-78.6
4 Darwin	1 721.2	572.9	-66.7
5 Ballina	537.2	417.0	-22.4
6 Mackay	887.0	407.7	-54.0
7 Launceston	1 386.6	311.1	-77.6
8 Newcastle	1 272.8	265.8	-79.1
9 Karratha	473.2	247.3	-47.7
10 Rockhampton	574.2	245.5	-57.2
11 Broome	403.6	231.0	-42.8
12 Port Hedland	390.5	192.9	-50.6
13 Alice Springs	534.7	189.0	-64.7
14 Proserpine	433.4	182.2	-58.0
15 Hamilton Island	458.4	156.9	-65.8
16 Newman	352.9	154.3	-56.3
17 Kalgoorlie	286.5	147.5	-48.5
18 Mount Isa	230.9	137.0	-40.6
19 Paraburdoo	193.4	105.3	-45.6
20 Gladstone	249.3	91.9	-63.1
21 Emerald	203.7	84.9	-58.3
22 Coffs Harbour	396.3	80.4	-79.7
23 Port Lincoln	175.4	79.8	-54.5
24 Dubbo	211.4	67.8	-67.9
25 Thursday Island	96.7	59.4	-38.6
26 Learmonth	84.6	55.8	-34.1
27 Kununurra	114.3	53.5	-53.2
28 Gove	82.5	46.3	-43.9
29 Albury	252.4	43.5	-82.8
30 Ayers Rock	485.2	43.4	-91.1
31 Bundaberg	154.0	43.1	-72.0
32 Wagga Wagga	209.6	42.1	-79.9
33 Weipa	71.7	40.6	-43.4
34 Olympic Dam	71.9	39.4	-45.2
35 Moranbah	110.4	38.2	-65.4
36 Mildura	253.7	37.6	-85.2
37 Port Macquarie	219.0	37.6	-82.8
38 Geraldton	106.2	33.7	-68.3
39 Tamworth	190.8	33.3	-82.5
40 Roma	96.9	32.2	-66.8
41 Albany	62.9	28.5	-54.7
42 King Island	46.5	28.1	-39.6
43 Esperance	51.9	27.7	-46.6
44 Cloncurry	45.9	26.4	-42.5
45 Whyalla	78.5	23.9	-69.6
46 Toowoomba Wellcamp	121.4	23.8	-80.4
47 Armidale	131.8	23.7	-82.0
48 Hervey Bay	168.0	22.9	-86.4
49 Norfolk Island	61.2	21.6	-64.8
50 Longreach	39.8	21.4	-46.2
Total top 50 regional airports	23 343.7	7 875.7	-66.3
Total regional airports	25 022.9	8 513.8	-66.0
Total domestic network	118 577.4	25 956.4	-78.1

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

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	229 018	310 456	35.6
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	4 336	5 714	31.8

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

Table 13: Charter passengers carried and aircraft trips - annual activity

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	2 807 147	3 257 224	16.0
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	48 558	68 392	40.8

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

Table 14: Domestic airports - charter activity - monthly

	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	458 036	620 912	35.6
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	8 672	11 428	31.8
Perth airport charter passenger movements	174 545	235 403	34.9
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	3 023	3 878	28.3

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

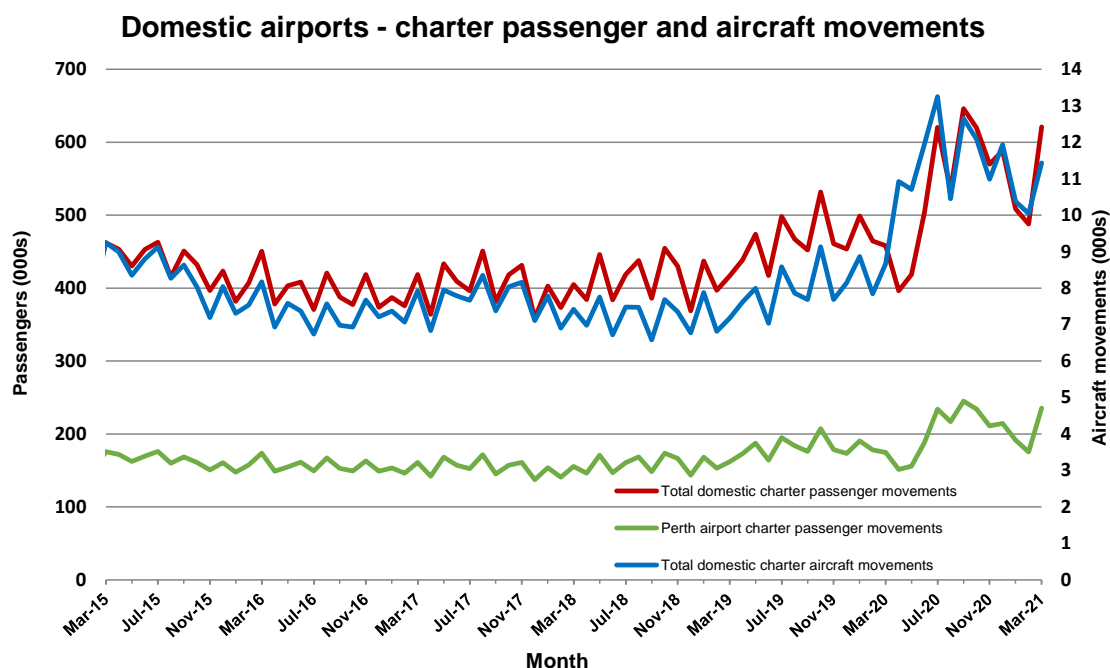
Charter passenger and aircraft movement numbers are the sum of arrivals and departures at each airport.

Table 15: Domestic airports - charter activity - annual

	YE Mar 2020	YE Mar 2021	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	5 614 294	6 514 448	16.0
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	97 116	136 784	40.8
Perth airport charter passenger movements	2 180 714	2 452 827	12.5
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	34 423	45 121	31.1

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.



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	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.