Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics

Aviation

Domestic aviation activity
April 2020

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Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE)
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
GPO Box 501, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
Telephone: (international) +61 2 6274 7210
Fax: (international) +61 2 6274 6855
Email: bitre@infrastructure.gov.au
Website: www.bitre.gov.au

Inquiries

Should you require additional information about the statistics contained in this publication:

Nebojsa Pavlovic

Telephone (02) 6274 6817 or Facsimile (02) 6274 7727

Electronic mail: AVSTATS@infrastructure.gov.au

Nebojsa.Pavlovic@infrastructure.gov.au

Web site: http://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/aviation/domestic.aspx

FOREWORD

This report provides an overview of domestic (including charter) commercial aviation activity in Australia for the month of April 2020.

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 with an average exceeding 8 000 passengers per month over the previous six months where two or more airlines operate in competition. For the month of April 2020, there were 26 such routes compared to 65 routes published in April 2019.

Information on the total network for the month of April 2020 and on the Regular Public Transport (RPT) network for the month of April 2020 is presented on page 2, with estimates for the year ended April 2020 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 and Skippers as well as the cargo carried by dedicated freighter aircraft operated by Qantas Freight, Toll Aviation and Virgin Australia Cargo.

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 and Regional 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.

CONTENTS

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HIGHLIGHTS

Travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak resulted in severe disruptions to domestic air travel this month.

There were 344.1 thousand passengers carried on Australian domestic commercial aviation (including charter operations) in April 2020, a decrease of 93.6 per cent on April 2019. For the month of April 2020, there were 13.4 thousand aircraft trips, a decrease of 76.5 per cent compared to April 2019.

143.7 thousand passengers were carried on RPT flights in April 2020, a decrease of 97.2 per cent on April 2019.

For the year ending April 2020 there were 54.25 million RPT passengers, a decrease of 11.0 per cent on the year ending April 2019.

RPT revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) performed were 156.0 million for the month, down 97.4 per cent compared with April 2019. Capacity, measured by available seat kilometres (ASKs), decreased by 92.6 per cent compared with April 2019 to a total of 554.6 million.

The industry wide load factor (RPKs/ASKs) decreased from 80.3 per cent in April 2019 to 28.1 per cent in April 2020. Load factors decreased on all 26 individual RPT routes for which data is available for publishing in both years.

In April 2020, all published routes recorded significant decreases in the number of passengers carried compared with April 2019.

For the month of April 2020, Melbourne – Sydney remained Australia's busiest RPT route with 17.1 thousand passengers, a decrease of 97.7 per cent compared with April 2019. It was followed by Brisbane – Sydney with 14.2 thousand passengers (down 96.4 per cent) and Brisbane – Melbourne with 8.6 thousand passengers (down 97.2 per cent).

Brisbane was Australia's busiest domestic airport with 54.9 thousand passenger movements in April 2020 (down 96.2 per cent), followed by Sydney with 48.2 thousand passenger movements (down 97.9 per cent) and Melbourne with 42.2 thousand passenger movements (down 98.1 per cent).

Total cargo movements at Australian airports on domestic RPT flights were 25.5 thousand tonnes in April 2020, a decrease of 28.6 per cent compared with April 2019.

In April 2020, there were 89.2 thousand domestic passenger movements through regional airports, 95.8 per cent less than in April 2019. All 28 published regional airports recorded significant decreases in April 2019.

Fixed-wing charter operators carried 200.4 thousand passengers in April 2020, a decrease of 9.6 per cent on April 2019. Perth Airport accounted for 37.8 per cent of all charter passengers in Australia.

TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of monthly commercial aviation activity

	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	5.37	0.34	-93.6
Aircraft trips (000s)	57.3	13.4	-76.5

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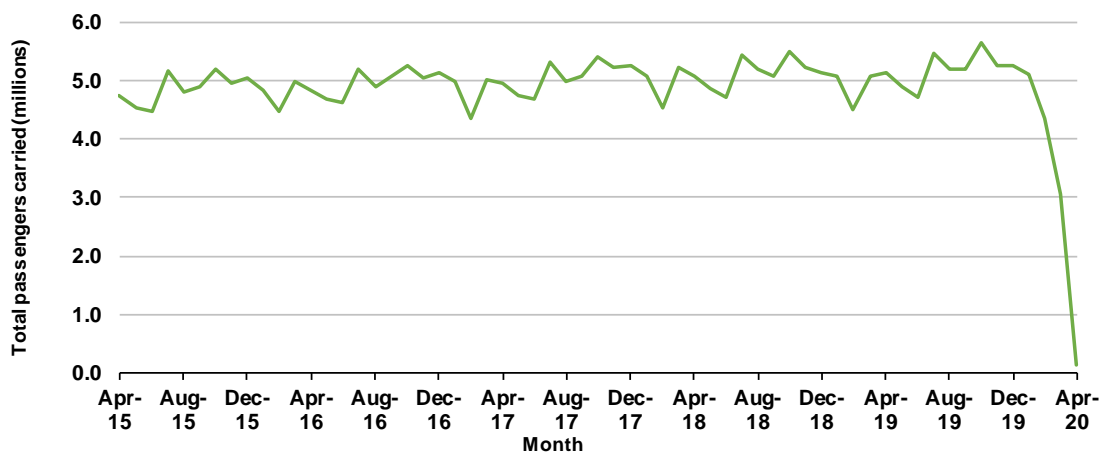Helicopter, joyflights and sightseeing charter flights not included.

RPT NETWORK

Summary of monthly RPT activity

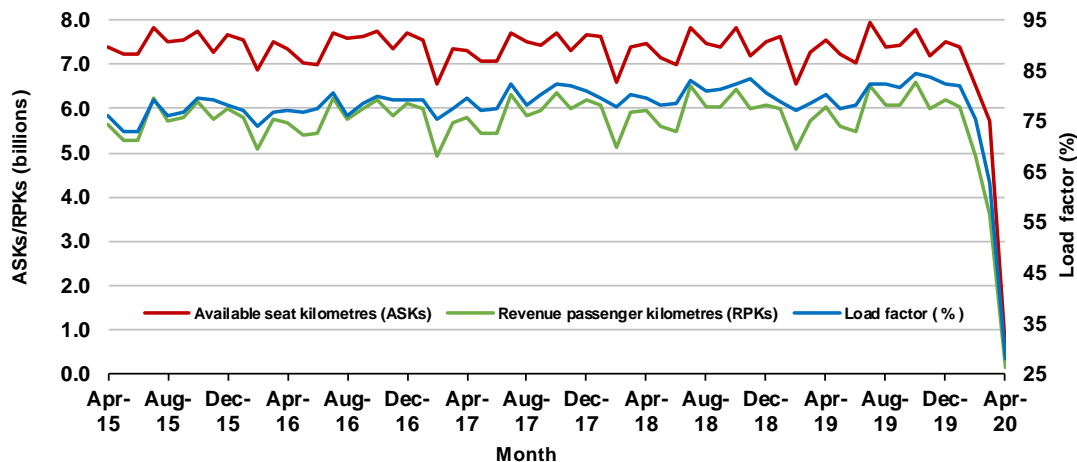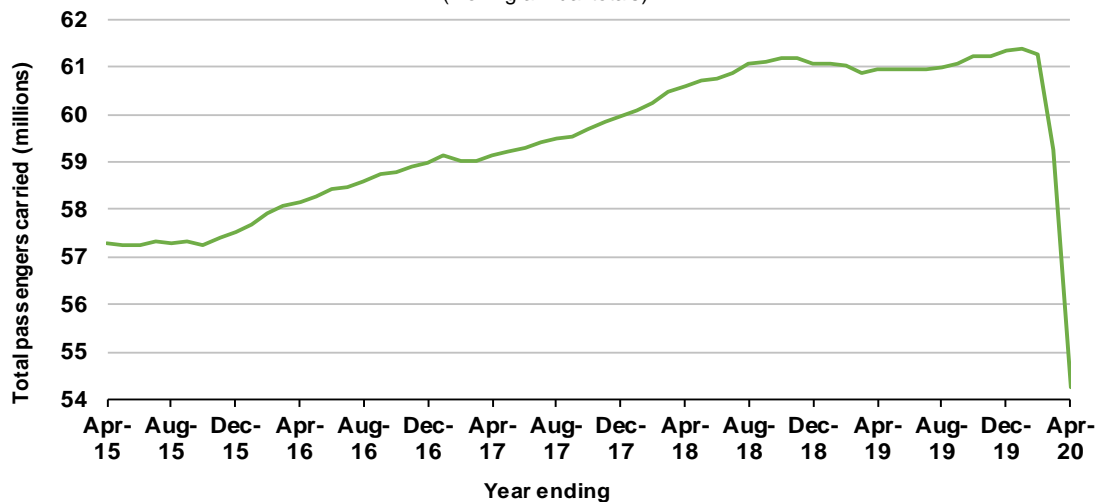|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	5.15	0.14	-97.2
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	6.06	0.16	-97.4
Available seats (millions)	6.58	0.52	-92.1
Available seat kilometres (billions)	7.54	0.55	-92.6
Load factor %	80.3	28.1	-52.2 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	53.4	7.9	-85.2

* percentage point difference

Domestic RPT passenger traffic
(monthly)

RPT Network utilisation
(monthly)

TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of annual commercial aviation activity

	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	63.48	57.08	-10.1
Aircraft trips (000s)	675.0	629.3	-6.8

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

RPT NETWORK

Summary of annual RPT activity

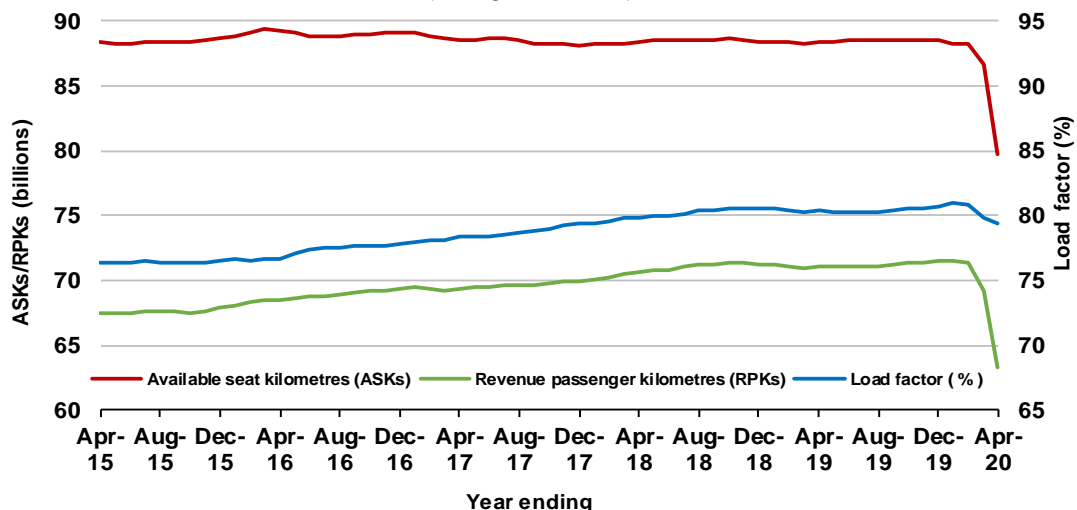|	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	60.94	54.25	-11.0
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	71.05	63.34	-10.9
Available seats (millions)	77.28	69.95	-9.5
Available seat kilometres (billions)	88.38	79.70	-9.8
Load factor %	80.4	79.5	-0.9 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	630.7	578.3	-8.3

* 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 Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	9 212.0	7 994.2	-13.2
2	Brisbane - Sydney	4 819.1	4 253.9	-11.7
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	3 602.4	3 179.6	-11.7
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	2 681.4	2 426.3	-9.5
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	2 511.0	2 222.6	-11.5
6	Melbourne - Perth	2 119.6	1 880.8	-11.3
7	Gold Coast - Melbourne	2 077.5	1 864.7	-10.2
8	Adelaide - Sydney	1 885.9	1 639.8	-13.1
9	Perth - Sydney	1 697.0	1 502.4	-11.5
10	Hobart - Melbourne	1 653.0	1 467.3	-11.2
11	Brisbane - Cairns	1 292.9	1 147.5	-11.2
12	Canberra - Melbourne	1 182.6	1 034.2	-12.6
13	Cairns - Sydney	1 111.2	932.8	-16.1
14	Brisbane - Townsville	999.3	920.6	-7.9
15	Brisbane - Perth	939.0	873.2	-7.0
16	Launceston - Melbourne	959.8	834.9	-13.0
17	Canberra - Sydney	939.6	823.6	-12.3
18	Adelaide - Brisbane	845.7	784.1	-7.3
19	Cairns - Melbourne	859.8	739.4	-14.0
20	Brisbane - Mackay	750.7	712.6	-5.1
21	Hobart - Sydney	706.4	647.3	-8.4
22	Brisbane - Canberra	645.1	593.2	-8.0
23	Adelaide - Perth	632.0	588.8	-6.8
24	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	635.9	573.1	-9.9
25	Brisbane - Newcastle	585.1	540.3	-7.7
26	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	547.6	493.8	-9.8
27	Brisbane - Rockhampton	521.5	486.6	-6.7
28	Karratha - Perth	445.6	428.1	-3.9
29	Melbourne - Newcastle	489.6	418.2	-14.6
30	Ballina - Sydney	433.8	384.3	-11.4
31	Perth - Port Hedland	365.7	356.2	-2.6
32	Newman - Perth	317.3	318.8	0.5
33	Brisbane - Darwin	365.9	318.0	-13.1
34	Broome - Perth	331.6	290.7	-12.3
35	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	334.3	288.1	-13.8
36	Darwin - Sydney	307.6	278.3	-9.5
37	Darwin - Melbourne	308.5	277.6	-10.0
38	Kalgoorlie - Perth	284.8	250.0	-12.2
39	Launceston - Sydney	288.3	249.9	-13.3
40	Brisbane - Proserpine	244.1	232.4	-4.8
41	Brisbane - Gladstone	248.2	222.4	-10.4
42	Brisbane - Hobart	236.9	216.6	-8.6
43	Melbourne - Mildura	227.4	205.0	-9.9
44	Albury - Sydney	228.2	201.1	-11.9
45	Hamilton Island - Sydney	203.1	197.5	-2.8
46	Adelaide - Gold Coast	217.0	191.7	-11.7
47	Brisbane - Emerald	195.9	187.5	-4.3
48	Adelaide - Canberra	195.5	171.6	-12.2
49	Port Macquarie - Sydney	186.6	169.7	-9.1
50	Ayers Rock - Sydney	191.0	166.2	-13.0

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

	City-Pair	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
51	Dubbo - Sydney	186.6	162.0	-13.2
52	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	180.0	161.8	-10.1
53	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	168.1	157.1	-6.5
54	Sydney - Tamworth	173.2	155.5	-10.2
55	Darwin - Perth	186.2	154.6	-17.0
56	Sydney - Townsville	172.8	152.3	-11.9
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	157.9	137.1	-13.2
58	Brisbane - Mount Isa	132.0	133.3	1.0
59	Cairns - Townsville	145.5	127.4	-12.5
60	Adelaide - Alice Springs	134.4	124.5	-7.4
61	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	124.2	119.8	-3.5
62	Armidale - Sydney	121.6	108.4	-10.8
	Total domestic network	**60 942.2**	**54 251.0**	**-11.0**

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

	City-Pair	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	741.9	17.1	-97.7
2	Brisbane - Sydney	397.0	14.2	-96.4
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	307.0	8.6	-97.2
4	Melbourne - Perth	180.9	6.1	-96.6
5	Brisbane - Mackay	61.1	6.1	-90.0
6	Perth - Port Hedland	30.7	5.0	-83.6
7	Adelaide - Melbourne	215.0	4.5	-97.9
8	Brisbane - Townsville	82.7	4.2	-94.9
9	Newman - Perth	29.3	3.9	-86.5
10	Brisbane - Cairns	105.1	3.9	-96.3
11	Karratha - Perth	39.2	3.2	-91.8
12	Kalgoorlie - Perth	21.4	3.1	-85.4
13	Brisbane - Mount Isa	11.3	2.2	-80.2
14	Brisbane - Rockhampton	43.1	2.2	-94.9
15	Brisbane - Perth	80.8	2.1	-97.4
16	Canberra - Melbourne	96.5	1.9	-98.0
17	Gold Coast - Sydney	227.6	1.5	-99.3
18	Cairns - Townsville	11.7	1.3	-88.9
19	Broome - Perth	27.7	1.1	-95.9
20	Brisbane - Gladstone	20.5	1.0	-95.0
21	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	14.5	0.6	-96.1
22	Dubbo - Sydney	14.3	0.5	-96.5
23	Melbourne - Mildura	18.5	0.5	-97.3
24	Brisbane - Bundaberg	12.6	0.4	-96.6
25	Albury - Sydney	19.0	0.3	-98.3
26	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	14.4	0.3	-98.1
27	Adelaide - Sydney	163.6	NA	..
28	Hobart - Melbourne	140.4	NA	..
29	Launceston - Melbourne	87.7	NA	..
30	Adelaide - Brisbane	74.8	NA	..
31	Adelaide - Perth	55.9	NA	..
32	Brisbane - Darwin	29.0	NA	..
33	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	27.2	NA	..
34	Brisbane - Emerald	15.6	NA	..
35	Darwin - Perth	14.9	NA	..
36	Adelaide - Alice Springs	14.1	NA	..
37	Gold Coast - Melbourne	185.8	0.0	-100.0
38	Perth - Sydney	142.4	0.0	-100.0
39	Cairns - Sydney	91.9	0.0	-100.0
40	Cairns - Melbourne	74.9	0.0	-100.0
41	Canberra - Sydney	71.1	0.0	-100.0
42	Hobart - Sydney	60.8	0.0	-100.0
43	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	60.6	0.0	-100.0
44	Brisbane - Canberra	54.6	0.0	-100.0
45	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	51.3	0.0	-100.0
46	Brisbane - Newcastle	47.6	0.0	-100.0
47	Melbourne - Newcastle	43.6	0.0	-100.0
48	Ballina - Sydney	39.2	0.0	-100.0
49	Darwin - Melbourne	27.6	0.0	-100.0
50	Launceston - Sydney	26.7	0.0	-100.0

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

	City-Pair	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
51	Darwin - Sydney	26.2	0.0	-100.0
52	Brisbane - Proserpine	23.1	0.0	-100.0
53	Brisbane - Hobart	21.0	0.0	-100.0
54	Adelaide - Gold Coast	18.1	0.0	-100.0
55	Hamilton Island - Sydney	17.2	0.0	-100.0
56	Ayers Rock - Sydney	17.1	0.0	-100.0
57	Adelaide - Canberra	16.9	0.0	-100.0
58	Port Macquarie - Sydney	15.4	0.0	-100.0
59	Sydney - Townsville	15.2	0.0	-100.0
60	Sydney - Tamworth	14.1	0.0	-100.0
61	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	10.8	0.0	-100.0
62	Armidale - Sydney	10.7	0.0	-100.0
	Total domestic network	**5 149.0**	**143.7**	**-97.2**

(NA) Data not included, route was not competitive in April 2020.

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

	City-Pair	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	880.8	44.6	-94.9
2	Brisbane - Sydney	488.5	39.2	-92.0
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	370.8	23.6	-93.6
4	Melbourne - Perth	208.6	25.2	-87.9
5	Brisbane - Mackay	83.2	14.4	-82.7
6	Perth - Port Hedland	51.6	15.8	-69.4
7	Adelaide - Melbourne	263.1	19.5	-92.6
8	Brisbane - Townsville	109.9	9.3	-91.5
9	Newman - Perth	50.6	13.5	-73.3
10	Brisbane - Cairns	130.2	8.3	-93.6
11	Karratha - Perth	60.1	12.4	-79.3
12	Kalgoorlie - Perth	42.7	10.1	-76.4
13	Brisbane - Mount Isa	16.5	5.7	-65.5
14	Brisbane - Rockhampton	54.4	9.6	-82.4
15	Brisbane - Perth	94.2	8.4	-91.1
16	Canberra - Melbourne	140.7	9.6	-93.2
17	Gold Coast - Sydney	270.9	7.7	-97.2
18	Cairns - Townsville	20.0	5.1	-74.7
19	Broome - Perth	37.2	6.2	-83.4
20	Brisbane - Gladstone	30.8	8.3	-73.0
21	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	23.4	2.1	-91.2
22	Dubbo - Sydney	21.0	2.7	-87.1
23	Melbourne - Mildura	28.7	2.4	-91.7
24	Brisbane - Bundaberg	18.6	3.7	-79.8
25	Albury - Sydney	27.2	1.9	-92.9
26	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	21.6	2.3	-89.4
27	Adelaide - Sydney	193.0	NA	..
28	Hobart - Melbourne	171.1	NA	..
29	Launceston - Melbourne	110.4	NA	..
30	Adelaide - Brisbane	93.1	NA	..
31	Adelaide - Perth	72.5	NA	..
32	Brisbane - Darwin	34.8	NA	..
33	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	36.9	NA	..
34	Brisbane - Emerald	23.3	NA	..
35	Darwin - Perth	20.7	NA	..
36	Adelaide - Alice Springs	18.0	NA	..
37	Gold Coast - Melbourne	212.3	0.0	-100.0
38	Perth - Sydney	165.6	0.0	-100.0
39	Cairns - Sydney	115.8	0.0	-100.0
40	Cairns - Melbourne	92.2	0.0	-100.0
41	Canberra - Sydney	100.6	0.0	-100.0
42	Hobart - Sydney	73.5	0.0	-100.0
43	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	77.8	0.0	-100.0
44	Brisbane - Canberra	73.0	0.0	-100.0
45	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	60.4	0.0	-100.0
46	Brisbane - Newcastle	63.7	0.0	-100.0
47	Melbourne - Newcastle	53.4	0.0	-100.0
48	Ballina - Sydney	48.3	0.0	-100.0
49	Darwin - Melbourne	33.4	0.0	-100.0
50	Launceston - Sydney	32.1	0.0	-100.0

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

	City-Pair	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
51	Darwin - Sydney	33.1	0.0	-100.0
52	Brisbane - Proserpine	30.1	0.0	-100.0
53	Brisbane - Hobart	24.8	0.0	-100.0
54	Adelaide - Gold Coast	22.0	0.0	-100.0
55	Hamilton Island - Sydney	24.6	0.0	-100.0
56	Ayers Rock - Sydney	21.4	0.0	-100.0
57	Adelaide - Canberra	25.3	0.0	-100.0
58	Port Macquarie - Sydney	21.8	0.0	-100.0
59	Sydney - Townsville	18.6	0.0	-100.0
60	Sydney - Tamworth	21.8	0.0	-100.0
61	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	15.3	0.0	-100.0
62	Armidale - Sydney	15.2	0.0	-100.0
	Total domestic network	**6 578.9**	**522.8**	**-92.1**

(NA) Data not included, route was not competitive in April 2020.

Table 4: Load factors (%) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Point diff
1	Melbourne - Sydney	84.3	38.3	-46.0
2	Brisbane - Sydney	81.3	36.1	-45.2
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	82.8	36.5	-46.3
4	Melbourne - Perth	86.7	24.3	-62.4
5	Brisbane - Mackay	73.4	42.5	-30.9
6	Perth - Port Hedland	59.5	31.9	-27.6
7	Adelaide - Melbourne	81.7	23.0	-58.7
8	Brisbane - Townsville	75.2	44.9	-30.3
9	Newman - Perth	57.9	29.3	-28.6
10	Brisbane - Cairns	80.7	47.1	-33.6
11	Karratha - Perth	65.2	25.9	-39.3
12	Kalgoorlie - Perth	50.1	31.0	-19.1
13	Brisbane - Mount Isa	68.4	39.3	-29.1
14	Brisbane - Rockhampton	79.2	22.8	-56.4
15	Brisbane - Perth	85.7	25.3	-60.4
16	Canberra - Melbourne	68.6	20.3	-48.3
17	Gold Coast - Sydney	84.0	19.7	-64.3
18	Cairns - Townsville	58.5	25.8	-32.7
19	Broome - Perth	74.6	18.3	-56.3
20	Brisbane - Gladstone	66.5	12.2	-54.3
21	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	62.2	27.4	-34.8
22	Dubbo - Sydney	68.2	18.5	-49.7
23	Melbourne - Mildura	64.3	20.8	-43.5
24	Brisbane - Bundaberg	67.6	11.3	-56.3
25	Albury - Sydney	69.9	16.2	-53.7
26	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	66.8	11.8	-55.0
27	Adelaide - Sydney	84.8	NA	..
28	Hobart - Melbourne	82.1	NA	..
29	Launceston - Melbourne	79.5	NA	..
30	Adelaide - Brisbane	80.4	NA	..
31	Adelaide - Perth	77.1	NA	..
32	Brisbane - Darwin	83.3	NA	..
33	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	73.8	NA	..
34	Brisbane - Emerald	66.8	NA	..
35	Darwin - Perth	72.0	NA	..
36	Adelaide - Alice Springs	78.1	NA	..
37	Gold Coast - Melbourne	87.5	0.0	-100.0
38	Perth - Sydney	85.9	0.0	-100.0
39	Cairns - Sydney	79.4	0.0	-100.0
40	Cairns - Melbourne	81.2	0.0	-100.0
41	Canberra - Sydney	70.7	0.0	-100.0
42	Hobart - Sydney	82.8	0.0	-100.0
43	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	77.9	0.0	-100.0
44	Brisbane - Canberra	74.7	0.0	-100.0
45	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	85.0	0.0	-100.0
46	Brisbane - Newcastle	74.7	0.0	-100.0
47	Melbourne - Newcastle	81.6	0.0	-100.0
48	Ballina - Sydney	81.2	0.0	-100.0
49	Darwin - Melbourne	82.5	0.0	-100.0
50	Launceston - Sydney	83.2	0.0	-100.0

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

	City-Pair	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Point diff
51	Darwin - Sydney	79.4	0.0	-100.0
52	Brisbane - Proserpine	76.8	0.0	-100.0
53	Brisbane - Hobart	84.6	0.0	-100.0
54	Adelaide - Gold Coast	81.9	0.0	-100.0
55	Hamilton Island - Sydney	70.0	0.0	-100.0
56	Ayers Rock - Sydney	79.7	0.0	-100.0
57	Adelaide - Canberra	66.8	0.0	-100.0
58	Port Macquarie - Sydney	70.8	0.0	-100.0
59	Sydney - Townsville	82.0	0.0	-100.0
60	Sydney - Tamworth	64.8	0.0	-100.0
61	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	70.9	0.0	-100.0
62	Armidale - Sydney	70.8	0.0	-100.0
	Total domestic network	**80.3**	**28.1**	**-52.2**

(NA) Data not included, route was not competitive in April 2020.

Table 5: Aircraft trips [a] — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	4 938	439	-91.1
2	Brisbane - Sydney	2 965	424	-85.7
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	2 137	257	-88.0
4	Melbourne - Perth	1 013	216	-78.7
5	Brisbane - Mackay	633	186	-70.6
6	Perth - Port Hedland	394	112	-71.6
7	Adelaide - Melbourne	1 588	225	-85.8
8	Brisbane - Townsville	728	91	-87.5
9	Newman - Perth	364	102	-72.0
10	Brisbane - Cairns	896	122	-86.4
11	Karratha - Perth	491	93	-81.1
12	Kalgoorlie - Perth	342	82	-76.0
13	Brisbane - Mount Isa	141	36	-74.5
14	Brisbane - Rockhampton	652	128	-80.4
15	Brisbane - Perth	504	48	-90.5
16	Canberra - Melbourne	909	98	-89.2
17	Gold Coast - Sydney	1 578	44	-97.2
18	Cairns - Townsville	307	98	-68.1
19	Broome - Perth	317	55	-82.6
20	Brisbane - Gladstone	407	110	-73.0
21	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	605	52	-91.4
22	Dubbo - Sydney	448	70	-84.4
23	Melbourne - Mildura	392	41	-89.5
24	Brisbane - Bundaberg	296	50	-83.1
25	Albury - Sydney	497	41	-91.8
26	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	425	48	-88.7
27	Adelaide - Sydney	1 119	NA	..
28	Hobart - Melbourne	937	NA	..
29	Launceston - Melbourne	793	NA	..
30	Adelaide - Brisbane	534	NA	..
31	Adelaide - Perth	480	NA	..
32	Brisbane - Darwin	214	NA	..
33	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	389	NA	..
34	Brisbane - Emerald	345	NA	..
35	Darwin - Perth	120	NA	..
36	Adelaide - Alice Springs	124	NA	..
37	Gold Coast - Melbourne	1 125	0	-100.0
38	Perth - Sydney	745	0	-100.0
39	Cairns - Sydney	590	0	-100.0
40	Cairns - Melbourne	468	0	-100.0
41	Canberra - Sydney	1 335	0	-100.0
42	Hobart - Sydney	464	0	-100.0
43	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	475	0	-100.0
44	Brisbane - Canberra	534	0	-100.0
45	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	336	0	-100.0
46	Brisbane - Newcastle	467	0	-100.0
47	Melbourne - Newcastle	294	0	-100.0
48	Ballina - Sydney	305	0	-100.0
49	Darwin - Melbourne	175	0	-100.0
50	Launceston - Sydney	179	0	-100.0

Table 5: (continued) Aircraft trips [a] **— monthly activity**

	City-Pair	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
51	Darwin - Sydney	188	0	-100.0
52	Brisbane - Proserpine	169	0	-100.0
53	Brisbane - Hobart	140	0	-100.0
54	Adelaide - Gold Coast	123	0	-100.0
55	Hamilton Island - Sydney	154	0	-100.0
56	Ayers Rock - Sydney	120	0	-100.0
57	Adelaide - Canberra	150	0	-100.0
58	Port Macquarie - Sydney	318	0	-100.0
59	Sydney - Townsville	106	0	-100.0
60	Sydney - Tamworth	340	0	-100.0
61	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	118	0	-100.0
62	Armidale - Sydney	358	0	-100.0
	Total domestic network	**53 410**	**7 929**	**-85.2**

(a) Includes RPT Cargo flights.

(NA) Data not included, route was not competitive in April 2020.

TOP TEN AIRPORTS – PASSENGER MOVEMENTS

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

	Airport	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change	% of Total
1	Brisbane	1 459.1	54.9	-96.2	19.1
2	Sydney	2 285.1	48.2	-97.9	16.8
3	Melbourne	2 189.5	42.2	-98.1	14.7
4	Perth	702.9	35.2	-95.0	12.2
5	Adelaide	630.8	11.8	-98.1	4.1
6	Townsville	138.6	7.9	-94.3	2.7
7	Cairns	351.6	7.4	-97.9	2.6
8	Mackay	69.3	7.2	-89.6	2.5
9	Port Hedland	31.7	5.1	-84.0	1.8
10	Darwin	141.5	4.5	-96.8	1.6
	Total top ten airports	**8 000.1**	**224.3**	**-97.2**	**78.1**
	Total domestic network	**10 298.0**	**287.4**	**-97.2**	**100.0**

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

	Airport	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change	% of Total
1	Sydney	27 533.3	24 218.9	-12.0	22.3
2	Melbourne	25 919.7	22 788.3	-12.1	21.0
3	Brisbane	17 358.6	15 688.6	-9.6	14.5
4	Perth	8 214.0	7 445.6	-9.4	6.9
5	Adelaide	7 309.5	6 513.7	-10.9	6.0
6	Gold Coast	5 452.1	4 923.9	-9.7	4.5
7	Cairns	4 246.9	3 640.4	-14.3	3.4
8	Canberra	3 147.0	2 789.1	-11.4	2.6
9	Hobart	2 697.2	2 461.6	-8.7	2.3
10	Darwin	1 722.8	1 515.3	-12.0	1.4
	Total top ten airports	**103 601.1**	**91 985.4**	**-11.2**	**84.8**
	Total domestic network	**121 884.4**	**108 502.1**	**-11.0**	**100.0**

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

Top ten airports, RPT passenger movements

(traffic on board)
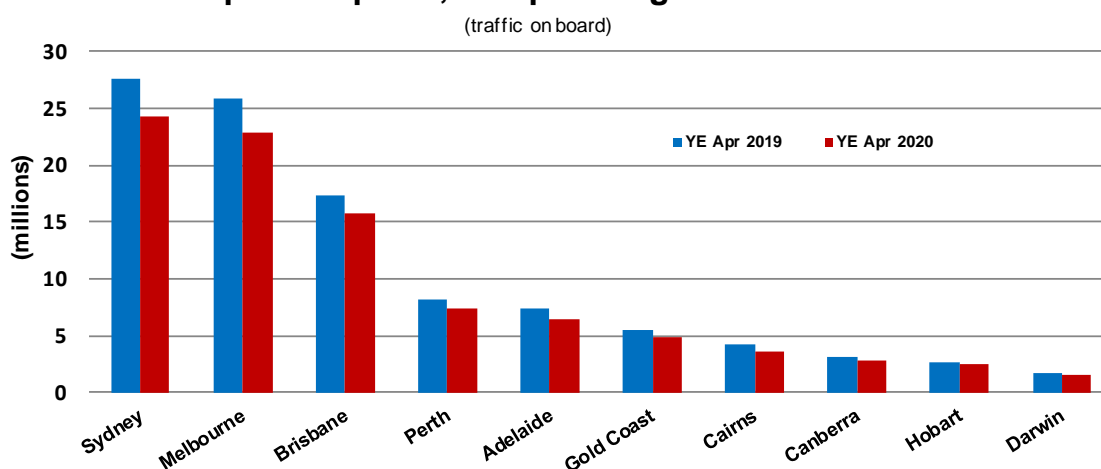
TOP FIVE AIRPORTS – CARGO MOVEMENTS

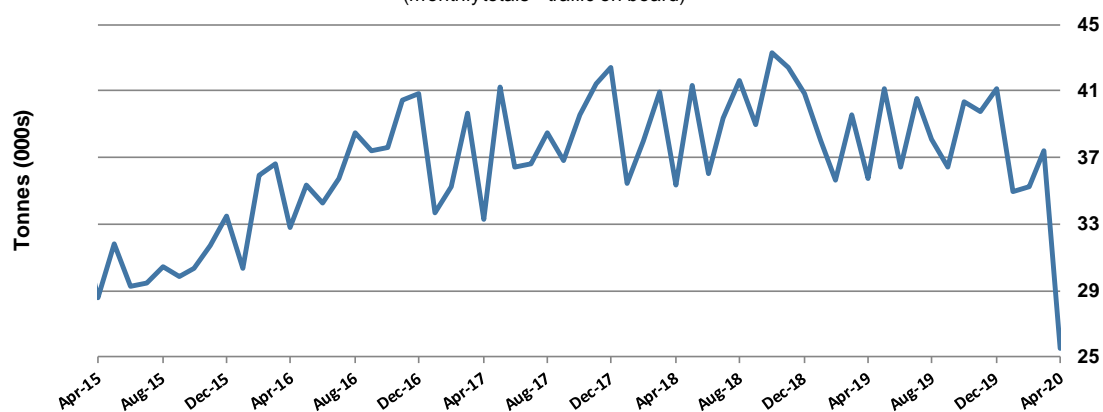**Table 8: Top five airports, domestic RPT cargo movements (000s tonnes) - monthly activity**

	Airport	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change	% of Total
1	Melbourne	9.4	7.5	-20.8	29.3
2	Sydney	7.6	5.0	-34.4	19.5
3	Brisbane	5.7	4.5	-21.3	17.5
4	Perth	4.8	2.3	-52.4	9.0
5	Adelaide	2.1	1.7	-21.5	6.6
	Total top five airports	**29.7**	**20.9**	**-29.6**	**82.0**
	Total domestic network	**35.7**	**25.5**	**-28.6**	**100.0**

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

|	Airport	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change	% of Total
1	Melbourne	129.8	120.0	-7.6	26.8
2	Sydney	104.9	99.1	-5.6	22.2
3	Brisbane	73.7	73.3	-0.6	16.4
4	Perth	65.8	60.2	-8.5	13.5
5	Adelaide	28.7	28.3	-1.4	6.3
	Total top five airports	**402.9**	**380.8**	**-5.5**	**85.2**
	Total domestic network	**472.6**	**447.0**	**-5.4**	**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
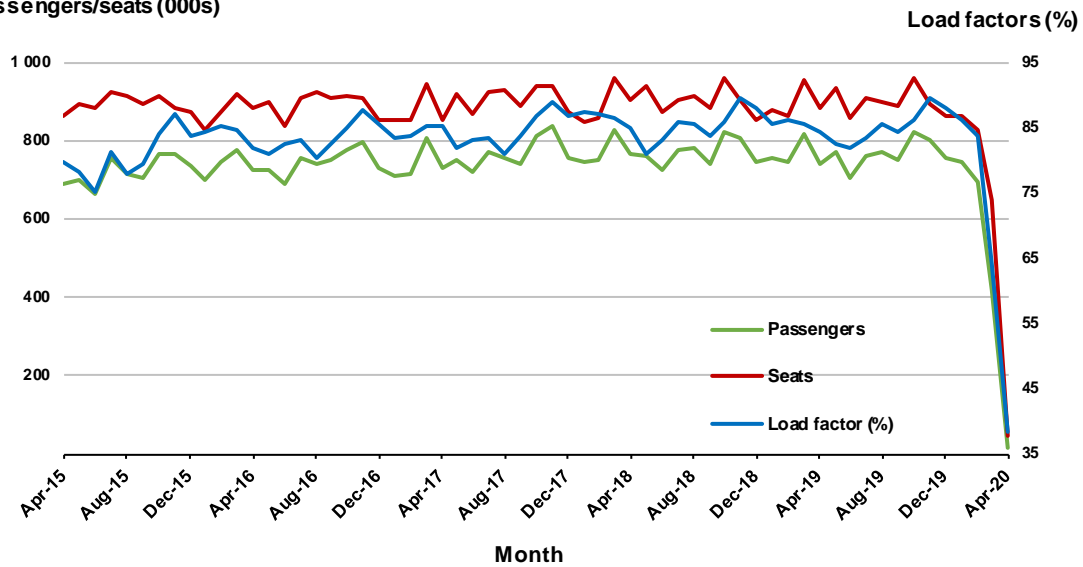(Domestic cargo traffic - traffic on board)
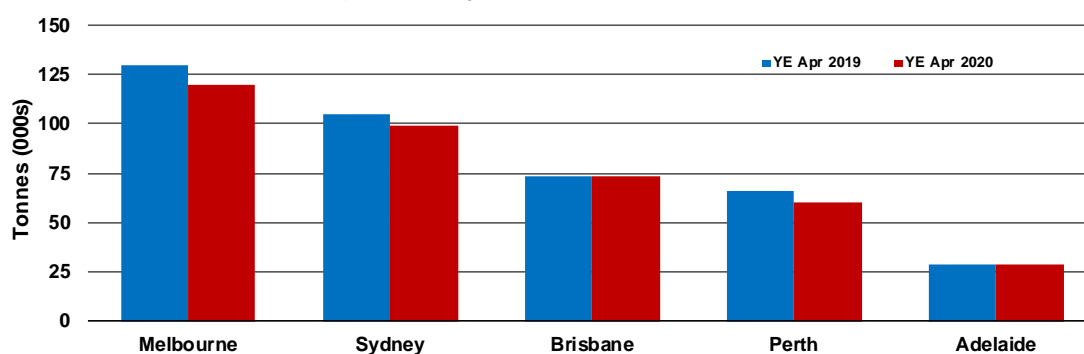
TOP TEN ROUTES

1. Melbourne - Sydney

Monthly data

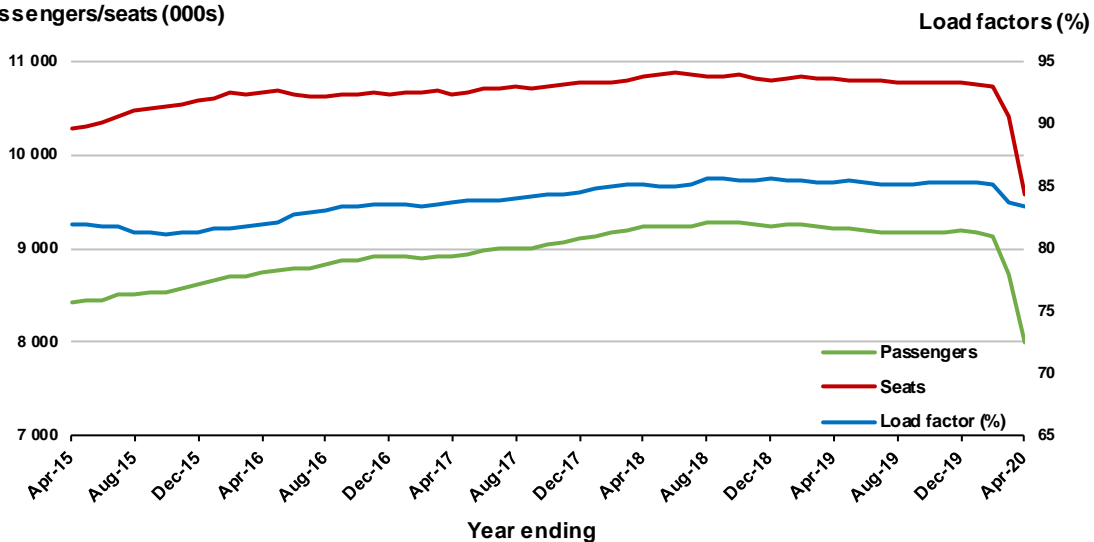|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	741.9	17.1	-97.7
Seats (000s)	880.8	44.6	-94.9
Load factor %	84.3	38.3	-46.0 *
Aircraft trips	4 938	439	-91.1

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)   **Load factors (%)**

Month

Moving annual data

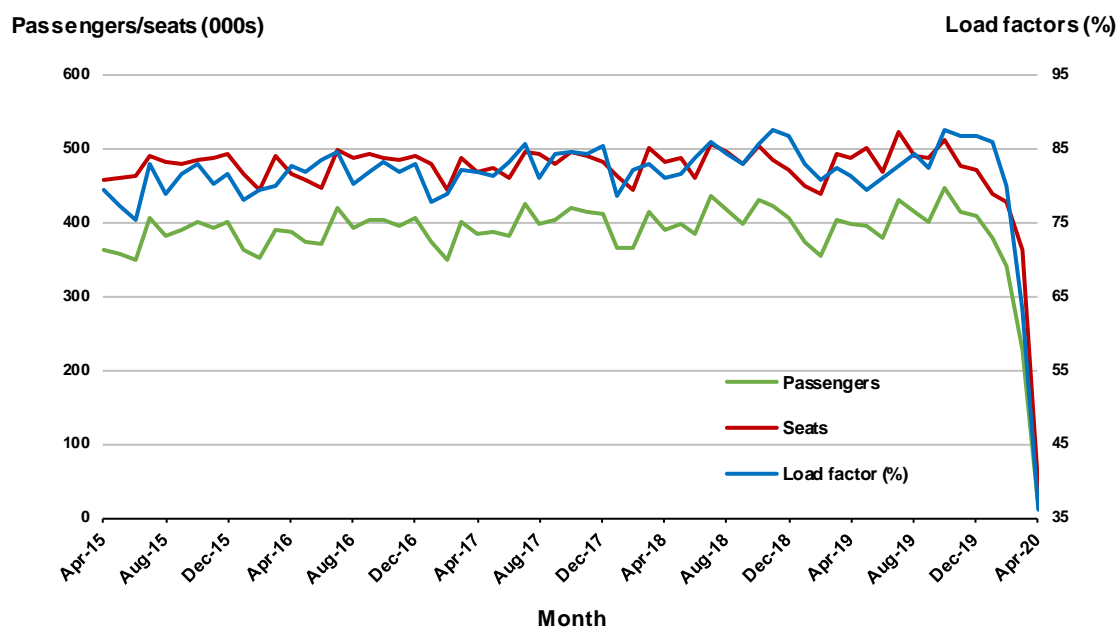|	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	9 212.0	7 994.2	-13.2
Seats (000s)	10 804.7	9 582.3	-11.3
Load factor %	85.3	83.4	-1.8 *
Aircraft trips	60 090	54 159	-9.9

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)   **Load factors (%)**

Year ending

2. Brisbane - Sydney

Monthly data

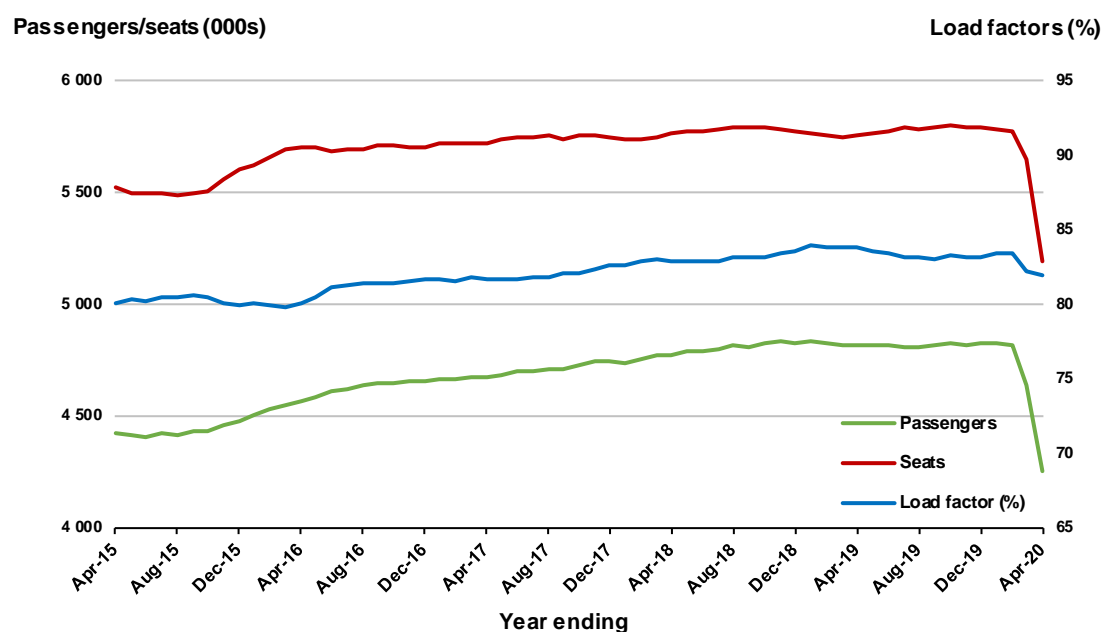|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	397.0	14.2	-96.4
Seats (000s)	488.5	39.2	-92.0
Load factor %	81.3	36.1	-45.2 *
Aircraft trips	2 965	424	-85.7

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Load factors (%)**

Month

Moving annual data

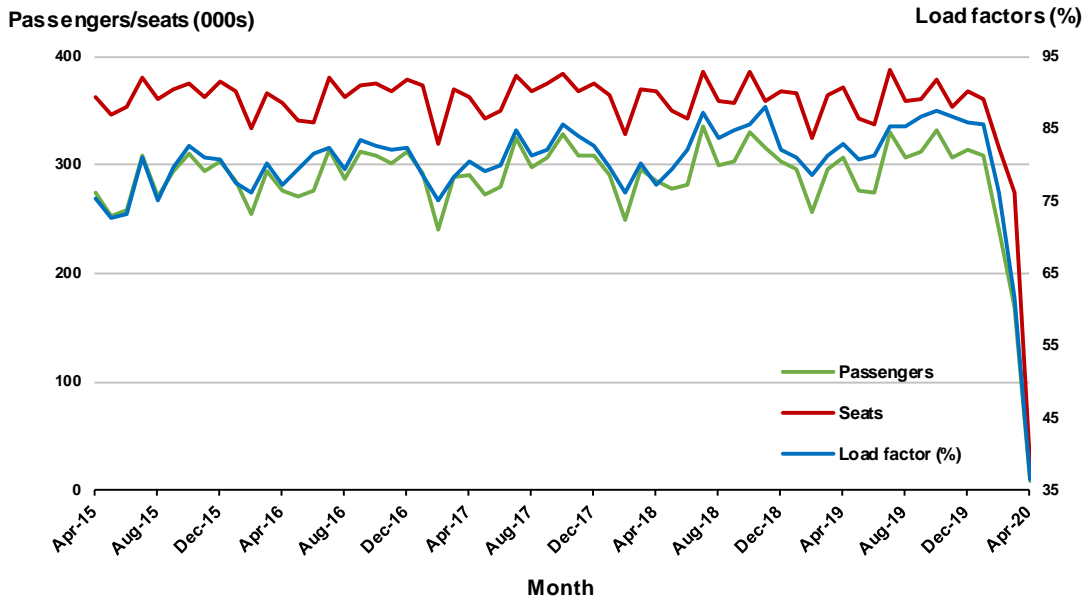|	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	4 819.1	4 253.9	-11.7
Seats (000s)	5 752.0	5 194.6	-9.7
Load factor %	83.8	81.9	-1.9 *
Aircraft trips	35 035	31 869	-9.0

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Load factors (%)**

Year ending

3. Brisbane - Melbourne

Monthly data

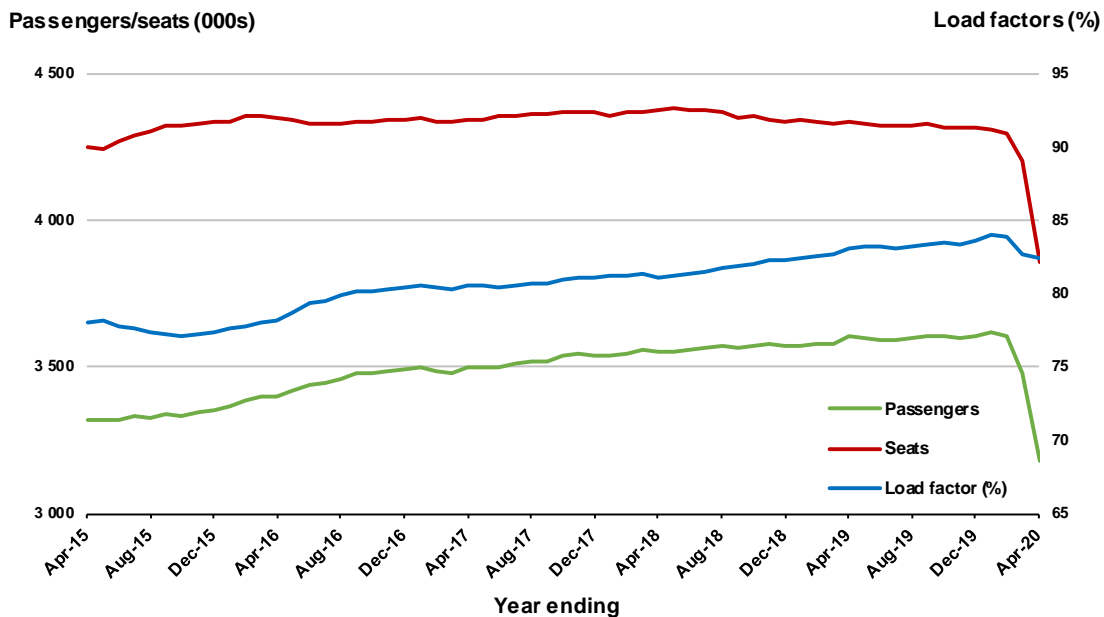|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	307.0	8.6	-97.2
Seats (000s)	370.8	23.6	-93.6
Load factor %	82.8	36.5	-46.3 *
Aircraft trips	2 137	257	-88.0

* percentage point difference

Moving annual data

	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	3 602.4	3 179.6	-11.7
Seats (000s)	4 334.7	3 859.4	-11.0
Load factor %	83.1	82.4	-0.7 *
Aircraft trips	25 541	22 921	-10.3

* percentage point difference

4. Melbourne - Perth

Monthly data

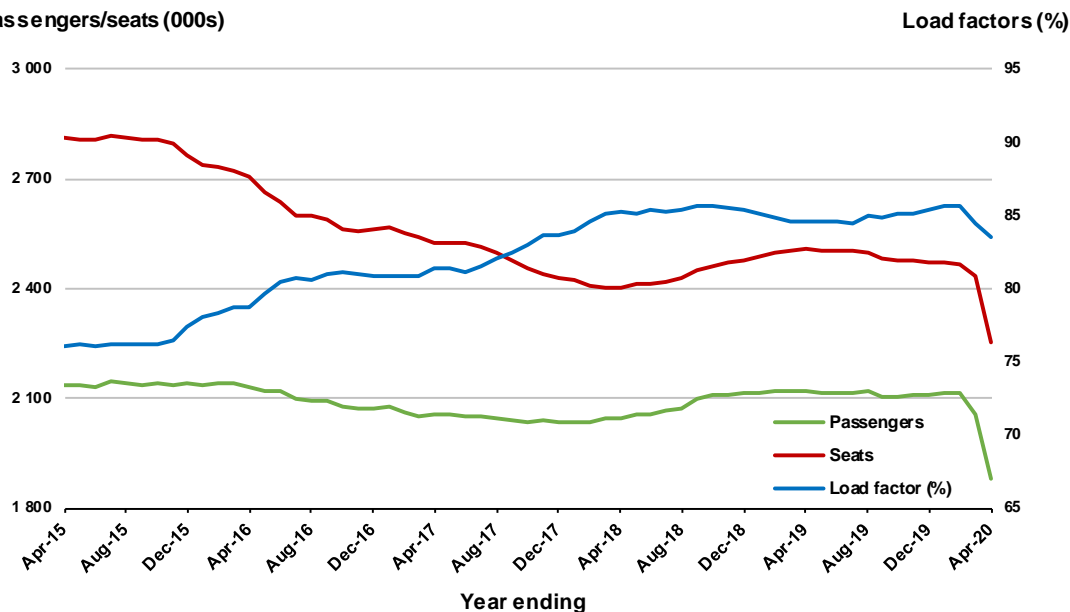|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	180.9	6.1	-96.6
Seats (000s)	208.6	25.2	-87.9
Load factor %	86.7	24.3	-62.4 *
Aircraft trips	1 013	216	-78.7

* percentage point difference
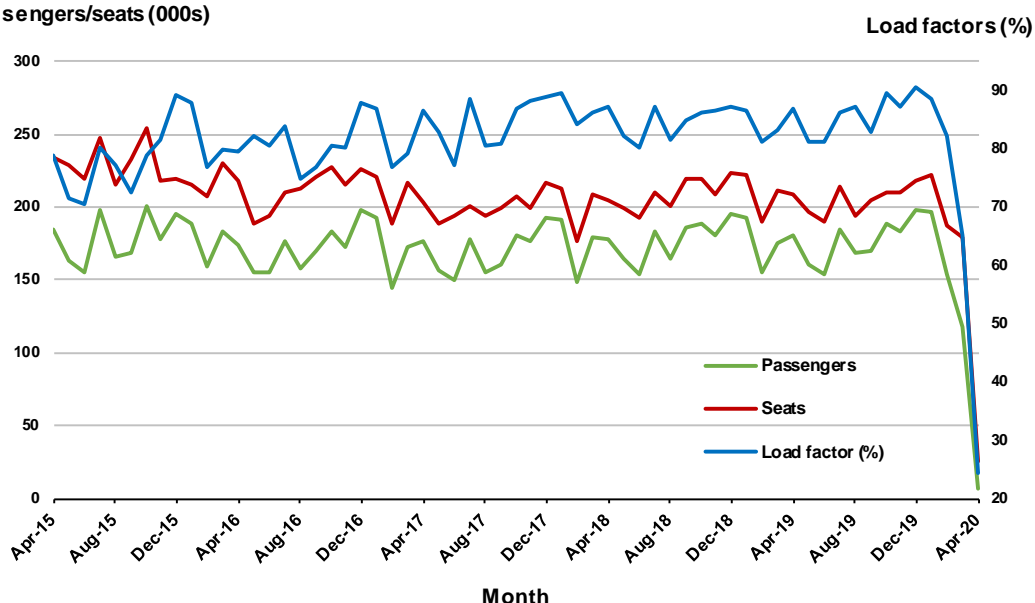
Moving annual data

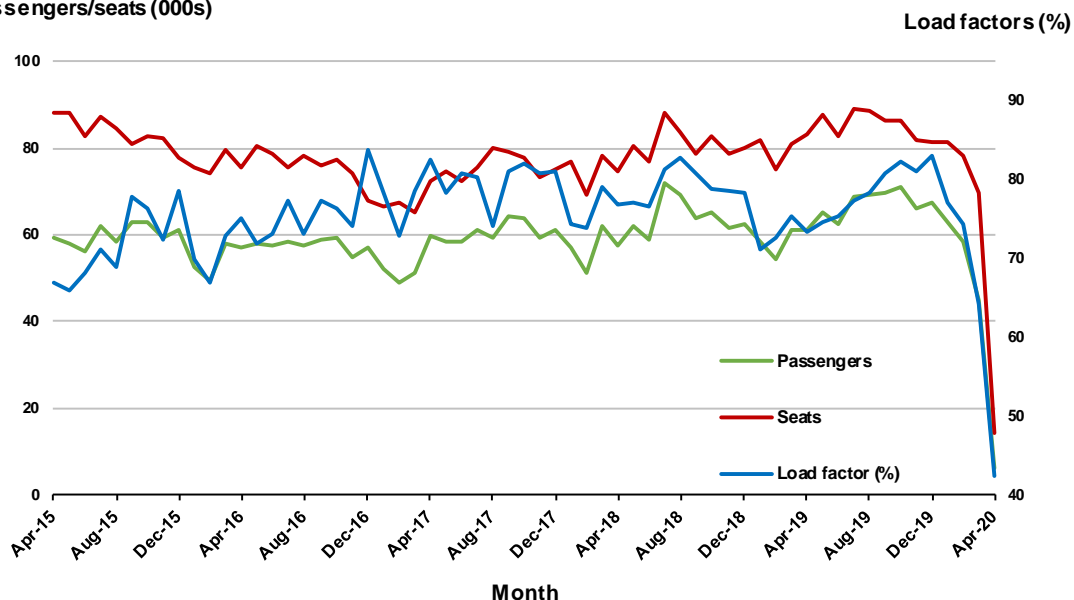|	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 119.6	1 880.8	-11.3
Seats (000s)	2 505.8	2 252.3	-10.1
Load factor %	84.6	83.5	-1.1 *
Aircraft trips	12 152	11 247	-7.4

* percentage point difference

5. Brisbane - Mackay

Monthly data

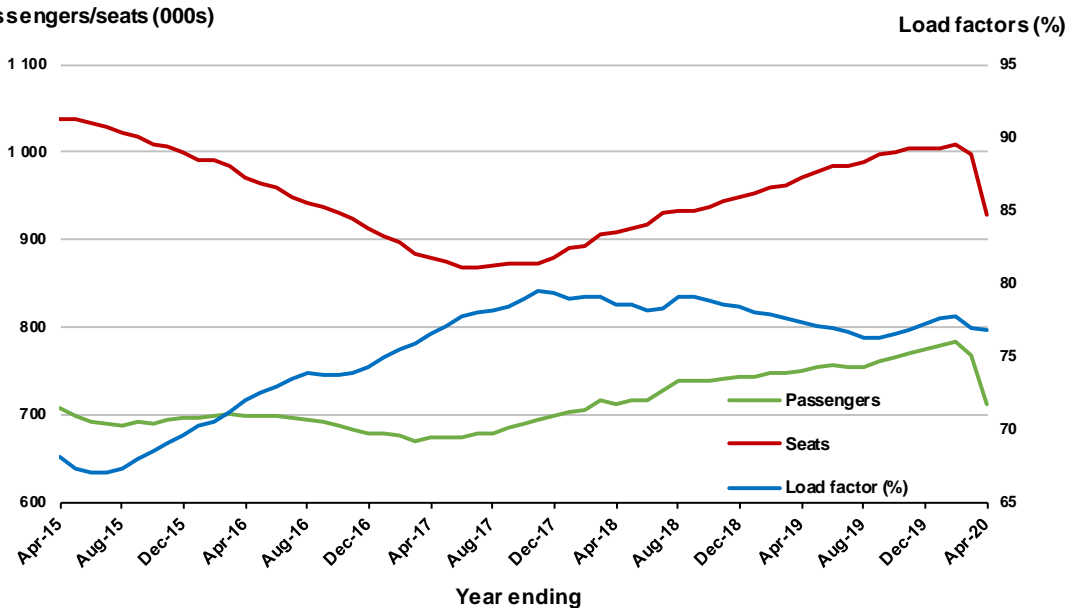|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	61.1	6.1	-90.0
Seats (000s)	83.2	14.4	-82.7
Load factor %	73.4	42.5	-30.9 *
Aircraft trips	633	186	-70.6

* percentage point difference

Moving annual data

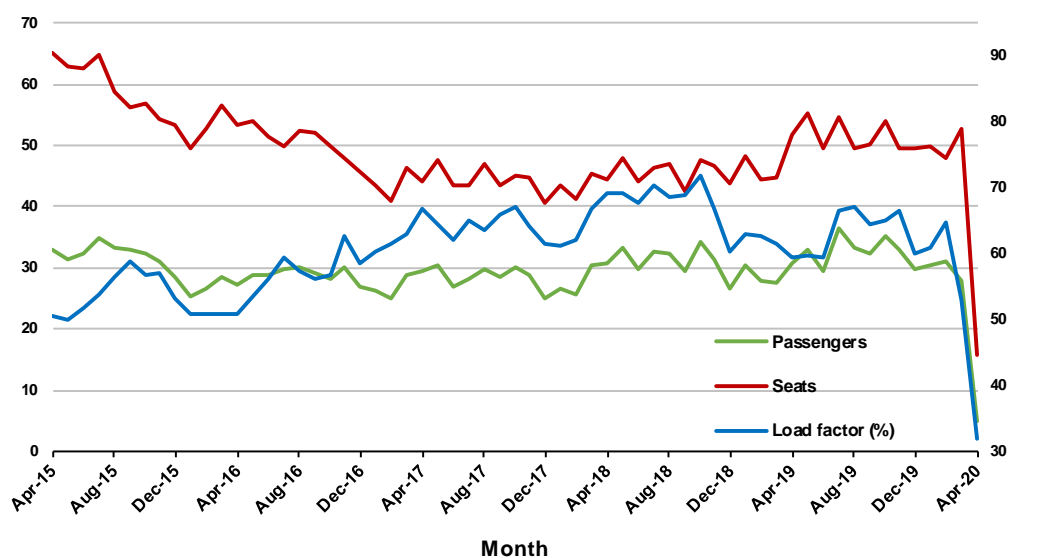|	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	750.7	712.6	-5.1
Seats (000s)	970.4	927.9	-4.4
Load factor %	77.4	76.8	-0.6 *
Aircraft trips	7 396	7 326	-0.9

* percentage point difference

6. Perth - Port Hedland

Monthly data

	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	30.7	5.0	-83.6
Seats (000s)	51.6	15.8	-69.4
Load factor %	59.5	31.9	-27.6 *
Aircraft trips	394	112	-71.6

* percentage point difference

Moving annual data

	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	365.7	356.2	-2.6
Seats (000s)	554.9	578.4	4.2
Load factor %	65.9	61.6	-4.3 *
Aircraft trips	4 418	4 424	0.1

* percentage point difference
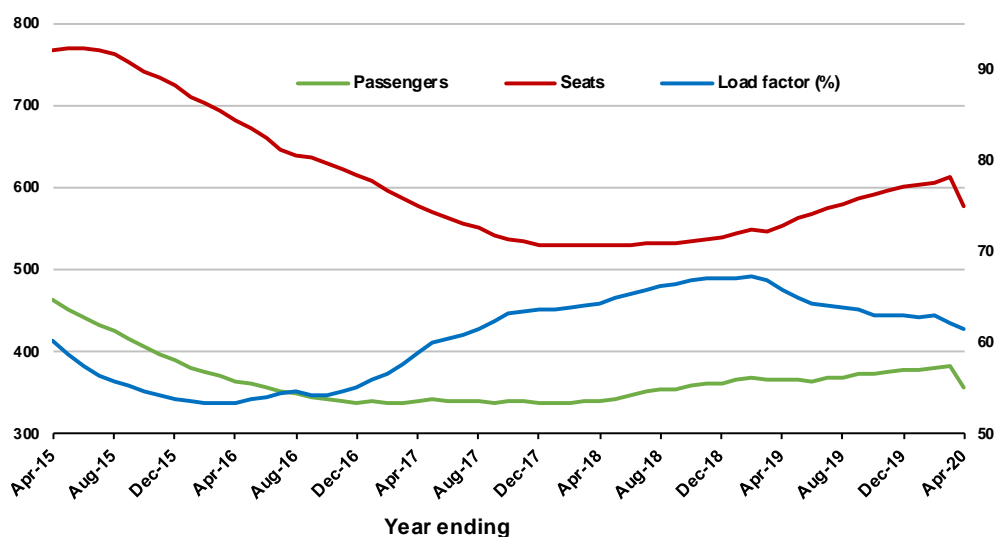
7. Adelaide - Melbourne

Monthly data

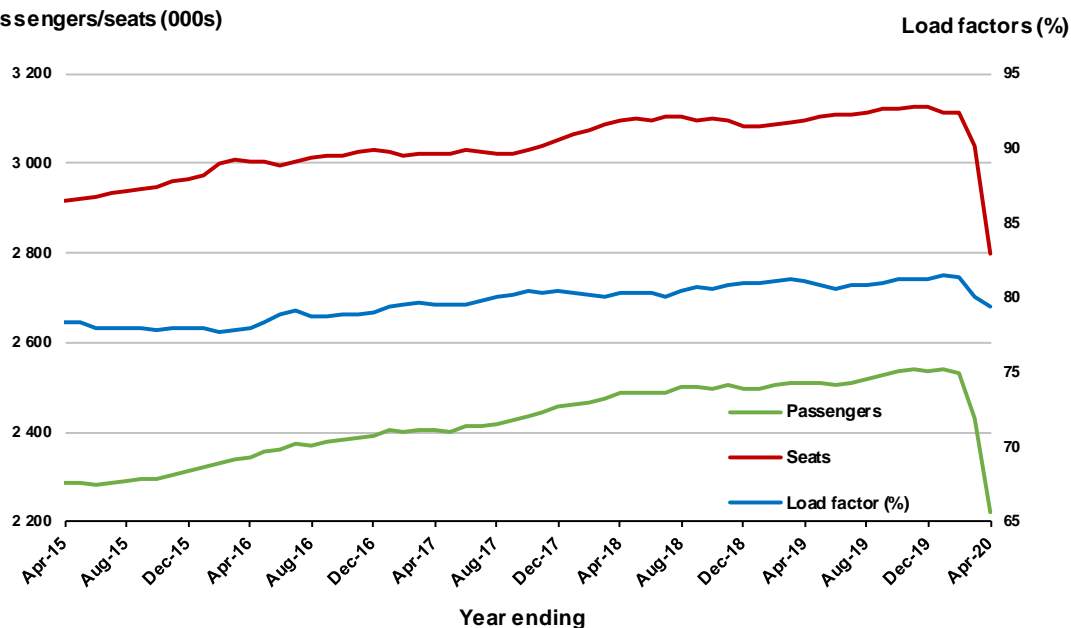|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	215.0	4.5	-97.9
Seats (000s)	263.1	19.5	-92.6
Load factor %	81.7	23.0	-58.7 *
Aircraft trips	1 588	225	-85.8

* percentage point difference
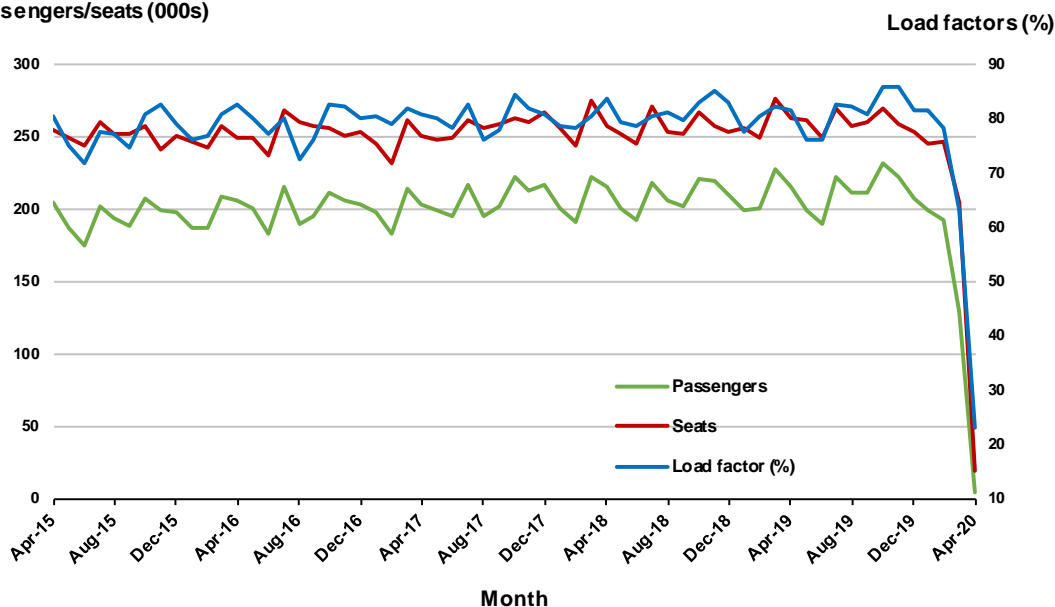
Moving annual data

	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 511.0	2 222.6	-11.5
Seats (000s)	3 097.0	2 796.7	-9.7
Load factor %	81.1	79.5	-1.6 *
Aircraft trips	18 992	17 190	-9.5

* percentage point difference

8. Brisbane - Townsville
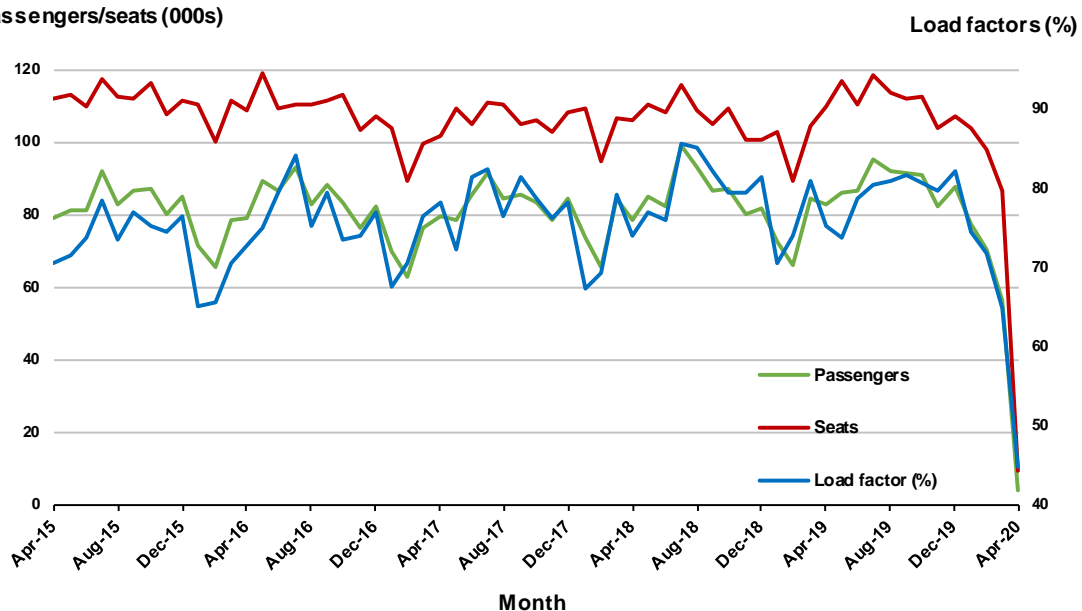
Monthly data

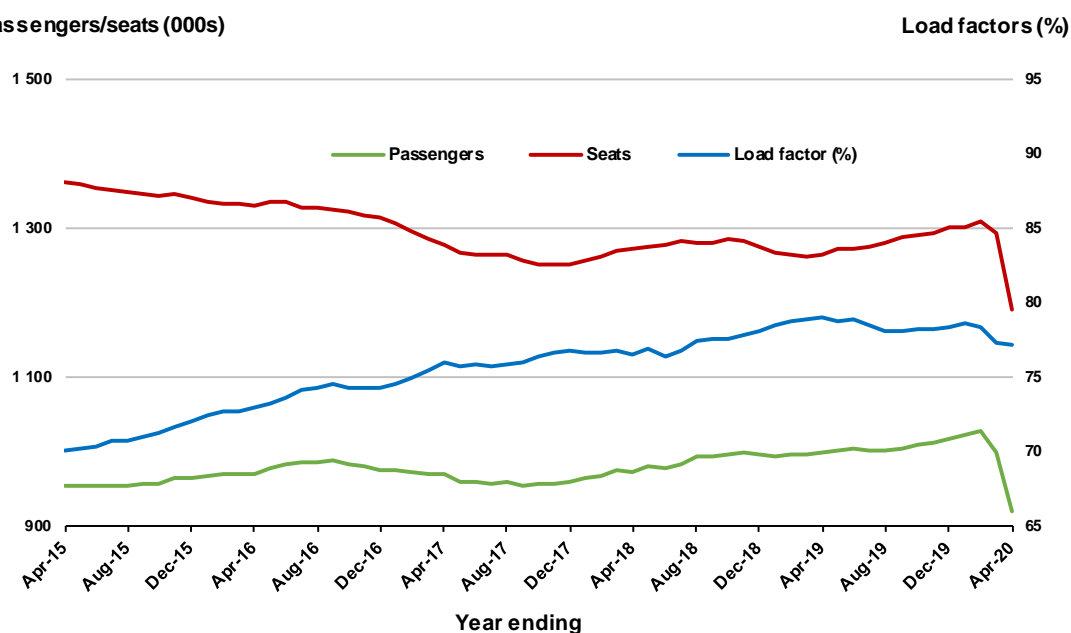|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	82.7	4.2	-94.9
Seats (000s)	109.9	9.3	-91.5
Load factor %	75.2	44.9	-30.3 *
Aircraft trips	728	91	-87.5

* percentage point difference

Moving annual data

	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	999.3	920.6	-7.9
Seats (000s)	1 264.6	1 192.0	-5.7
Load factor %	79.0	77.2	-1.8 *
Aircraft trips	8 625	8 057	-6.6

* percentage point difference

9. Newman - Perth

Monthly data

	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	29.3	3.9	-86.5
Seats (000s)	50.6	13.5	-73.3
Load factor %	57.9	29.3	-28.6 *
Aircraft trips	364	102	-72.0

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)   **Load factors (%)**

Moving annual data

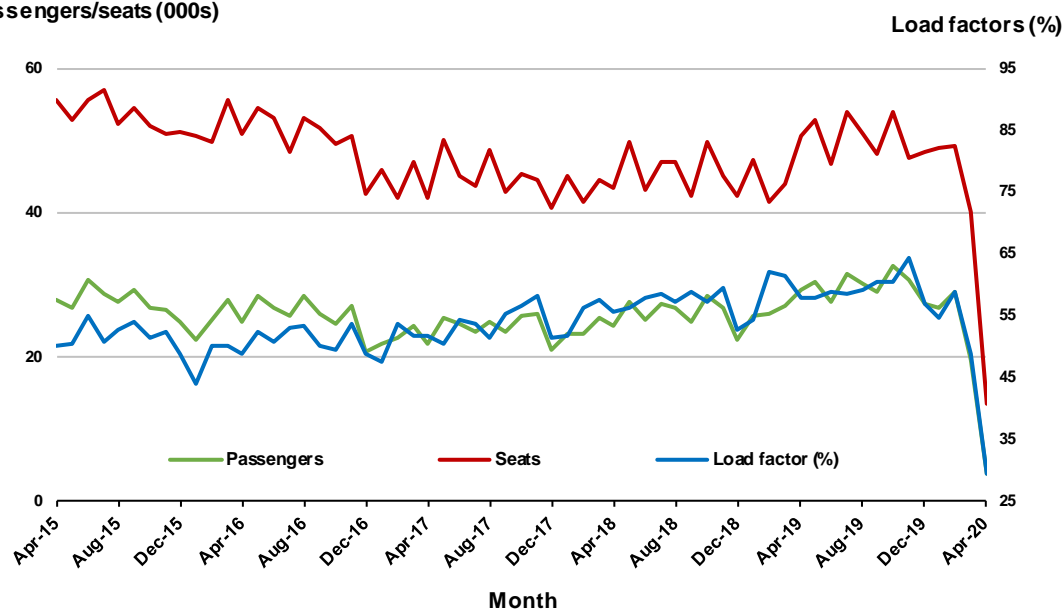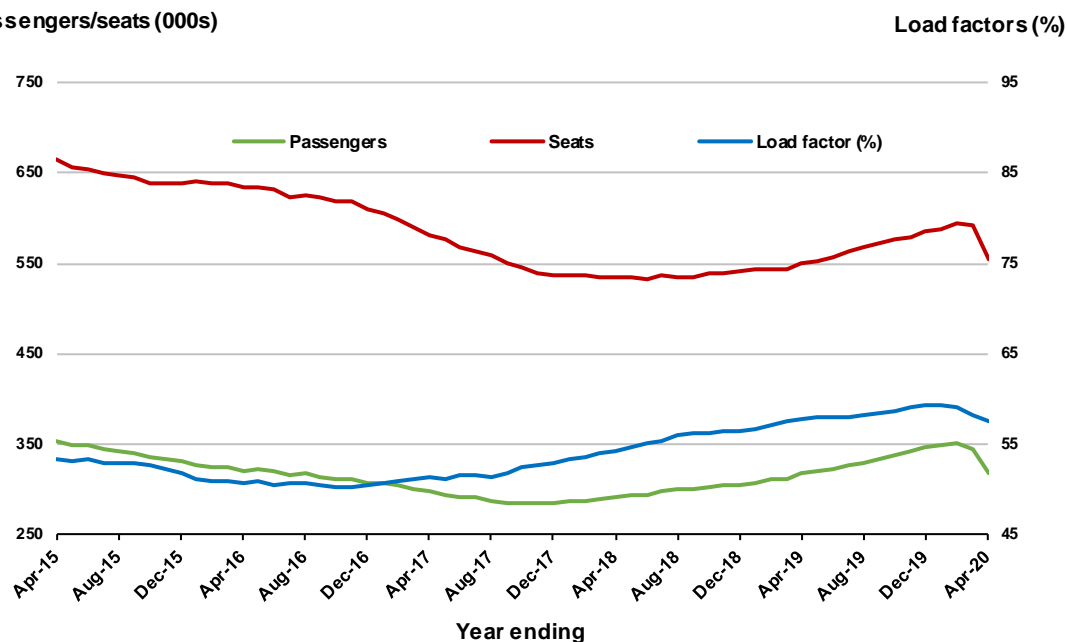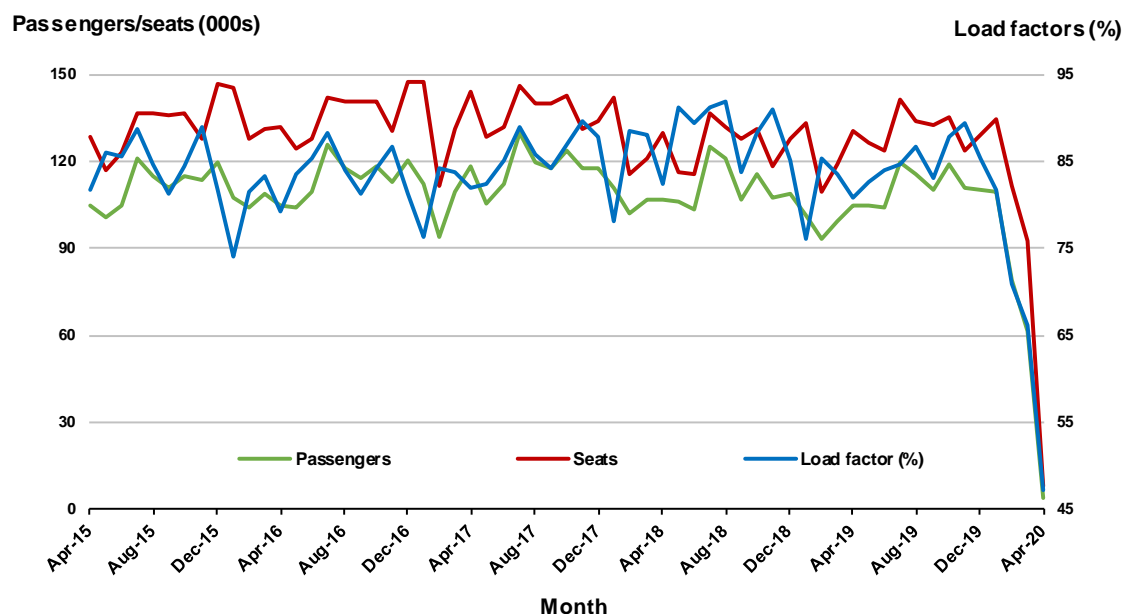|	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	317.3	318.8	0.5
Seats (000s)	550.0	554.0	0.7
Load factor %	57.7	57.5	-0.1 *
Aircraft trips	4 064	3 901	-4.0

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)   **Load factors (%)**

10. Brisbane - Cairns

Monthly data

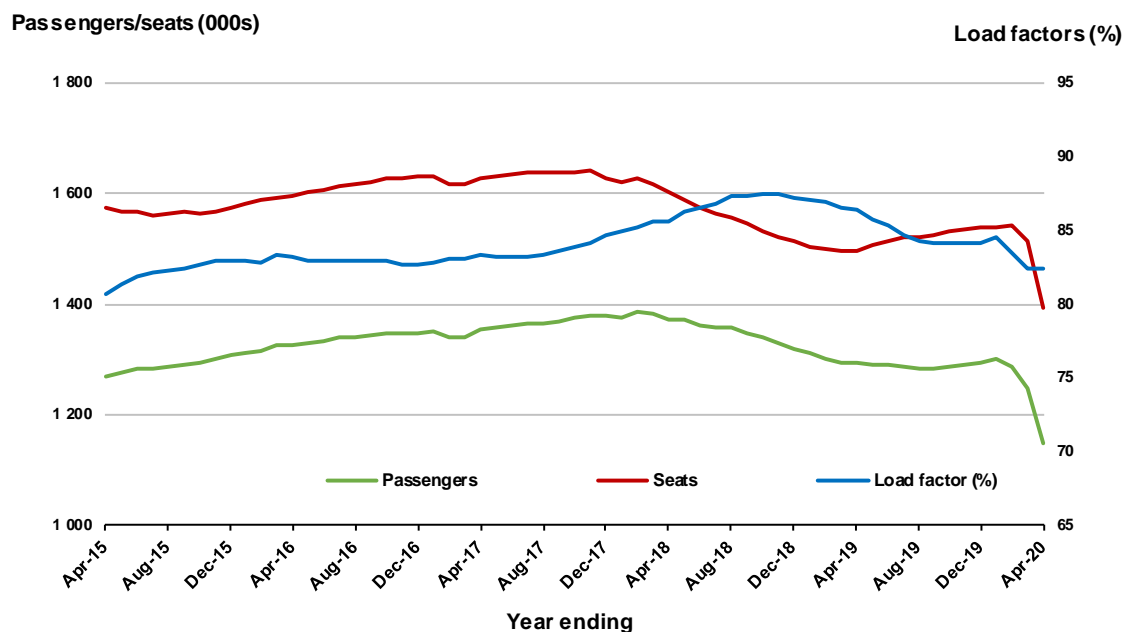|	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	105.1	3.9	-96.3
Seats (000s)	130.2	8.3	-93.6
Load factor %	80.7	47.1	-33.6 *
Aircraft trips	896	122	-86.4

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Load factors (%)**

Moving annual data

	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 292.9	1 147.5	-11.2
Seats (000s)	1 496.7	1 392.4	-7.0
Load factor %	86.4	82.4	-4.0 *
Aircraft trips	9 972	9 794	-1.8

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Load factors (%)**

TOP FIFTY REGIONAL AIRPORTS

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

	Airport	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
1	Townsville	138.6	7.9	-94.3
2	Cairns	351.6	7.4	-97.9
3	Mackay	69.3	7.2	-89.6
4	Port Hedland	31.7	5.1	-84.0
5	Darwin	141.5	4.5	-96.8
6	Newman	29.3	3.9	-86.5
7	Mount Isa	17.8	3.8	-78.8
8	Karratha	39.6	3.3	-91.7
9	Kalgoorlie	22.3	3.1	-86.0
10	Alice Springs	47.3	3.0	-93.6
11	Rockhampton	45.7	2.5	-94.5
12	Broome	32.8	1.6	-95.2
13	Gladstone	20.5	1.2	-94.3
14	Kununurra	8.9	1.2	-87.0
15	Launceston	129.0	0.8	-99.4
16	Dubbo	16.9	0.7	-95.8
17	Port Lincoln	14.5	0.6	-95.9
18	Bundaberg	12.6	0.6	-95.5
19	Mildura	20.5	0.5	-97.5
20	Thursday Island	8.7	0.5	-94.8
21	Albury	21.1	0.4	-97.9
22	Newcastle	107.7	0.4	-99.6
23	Ballina	48.0	0.4	-99.2
24	Longreach	3.7	0.4	-90.1
25	Weipa	6.6	0.4	-94.5
26	Wagga Wagga	16.6	0.4	-97.9
27	King Island	4.4	0.3	-93.2
28	Charleville	1.7	0.3	-82.9
29	Hobart	234.5	NA	..
30	Coffs Harbour	33.9	NA	..
31	Port Macquarie	17.9	NA	..
32	Emerald	15.6	NA	..
33	Paraburdoo	15.3	NA	..
34	Devonport	12.5	NA	..
35	Toowoomba Wellcamp	10.1	NA	..
36	Geraldton	9.2	NA	..
37	Learmonth	9.0	NA	..
38	Moranbah	8.8	NA	..
39	Roma	7.9	NA	..
40	Olympic Dam	6.4	NA	..
41	Gove	6.2	NA	..
42	Albany	5.2	NA	..
43	Esperance	4.2	NA	..
44	Cloncurry	3.4	NA	..
45	Palm Island	2.3	NA	..
46	Monkey Mia	1.8	NA	..
47	Mornington Island	1.5	NA	..
48	Doomadgee	1.4	NA	..
49	Leonora	0.8	NA	..
50	Laverton	0.8	NA	..
	Total top 50 regional airports	**1 817.6**	**81.3**	**-95.5**
	Total regional airports	**2 105.3**	**89.2**	**-95.8**
	Total domestic network	**10 298.0**	**287.4**	**-97.2**

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 the Australian Bureau of Statistics

"The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS)", not based in Major Urban areas.

(NA) Data not available, only one operator was providing RPT service or there was no RPT service reported at airport.

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

	Airport	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
1	Cairns	4 246.9	3 640.4	-14.3
2	Hobart	2 697.2	2 461.6	-8.7
3	Darwin	1 722.8	1 515.3	-12.0
4	Townsville	1 640.3	1 501.1	-8.5
5	Launceston	1 387.5	1 208.2	-12.9
6	Newcastle	1 257.9	1 119.9	-11.0
7	Mackay	855.7	805.6	-5.9
8	Rockhampton	555.4	516.0	-7.1
9	Ballina	535.7	472.8	-11.7
10	Alice Springs	613.3	466.1	-24.0
11	Karratha	447.7	429.1	-4.1
12	Ayers Rock	433.5	424.2	-2.1
13	Hamilton Island	428.1	414.0	-3.3
14	Proserpine	431.0	383.9	-10.9
15	Port Hedland	375.3	364.5	-2.9
16	Broome	410.7	360.3	-12.3
17	Coffs Harbour	398.3	348.9	-12.4
18	Newman	318.1	319.9	0.6
19	Kalgoorlie	295.0	261.0	-11.5
20	Mildura	264.9	224.5	-15.2
21	Albury	255.1	223.8	-12.3
22	Gladstone	248.3	222.7	-10.3
23	Mount Isa	214.2	214.0	-0.1
24	Port Macquarie	214.1	194.4	-9.2
25	Dubbo	214.5	188.0	-12.4
26	Emerald	196.0	187.6	-4.3
27	Wagga Wagga	210.0	186.0	-11.4
28	Paraburdoo	180.5	180.2	-0.2
29	Tamworth	187.2	169.3	-9.6
30	Port Lincoln	168.3	157.2	-6.5
31	Hervey Bay	160.8	150.1	-6.6
32	Bundaberg	157.9	137.3	-13.0
33	Devonport	146.8	132.8	-9.6
34	Armidale	129.1	115.2	-10.8
35	Toowoomba Wellcamp	126.7	108.0	-14.8
36	Kununurra	109.6	103.9	-5.1
37	Moranbah	108.0	102.9	-4.7
38	Geraldton	111.5	94.2	-15.5
39	Roma	90.9	87.3	-4.0
40	Thursday Island	100.1	86.1	-14.0
41	Griffith	83.9	85.5	2.0
42	Mount Gambier	81.0	76.8	-5.2
43	Gove	82.2	75.6	-8.0
44	Orange	79.1	74.8	-5.4
45	Learmonth	86.1	74.3	-13.7
46	Whyalla	77.5	70.5	-9.1
47	Burnie	72.4	64.9	-10.4
48	Olympic Dam	76.9	64.6	-16.0
49	Weipa	79.6	64.5	-18.9
50	Merimbula	69.0	58.8	-14.8
	Total top 50 regional airports	**23 432.5**	**20 988.6**	**-10.4**
	Total regional airports	**24 840.3**	**22 242.2**	**-10.5**
	Total domestic network	**121 884.4**	**108 502.1**	**-11.0**

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 the Australian Bureau of Statistics
"The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS)", not based in Major Urban areas.

DOMESTIC CHARTER ACTIVITY

Table 12: Charter passengers carried and aircraft trips - monthly activity

	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	221 676	200 369	-9.6
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	3 861	5 519	42.9

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

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

	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	2 539 404	2 828 895	11.4
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	44 284	51 004	15.2

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

Table 14: Domestic airports - charter activity - monthly

	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	443 352	400 738	-9.6
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	7 722	11 038	42.9
Perth airport charter passenger movements	173 034	151 312	-12.6
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	2 719	3 781	39.1

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

	YE Apr 2019	YE Apr 2020	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	5 078 808	5 657 790	11.4
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	88 568	102 008	15.2
Perth airport charter passenger movements	1 934 746	2 169 126	12.1
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	30 474	35 647	17.0

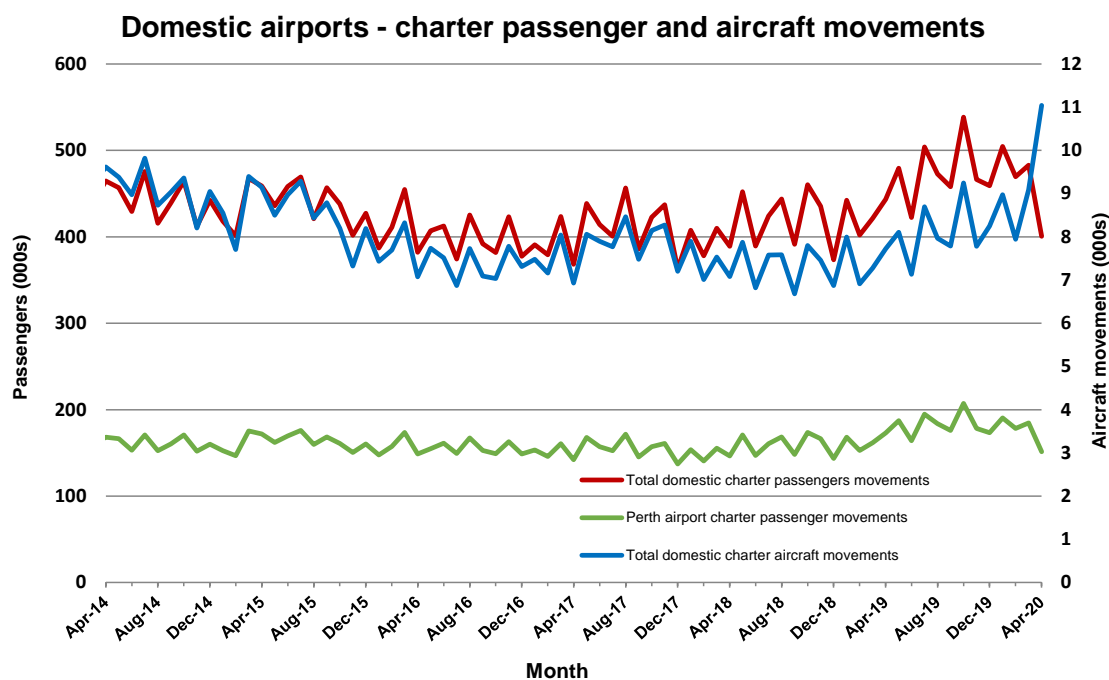Note: Helicopter, joyflights and sightseeing charter flights not included.
Charter passenger and aircraft movement numbers are the sum of arrivals and departures at each airport.

Domestic airports - charter passenger and aircraft movements

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 passenger departure at Melbourne and as a passenger 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.
..	Data not included
NA	Not applicable