



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts**

Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics
STATISTICAL REPORT



Aviation

**Domestic aviation activity
January 2026**

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We pay our respects to the Elders past and present and extend that respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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FOREWORD

This report provides an overview of domestic (including charter) commercial aviation activity in Australia for the month of January 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 six months where two or more airlines operate in competition.

Information on the total network for the month of January 2026 and on the RPT network for the month of January 2026 is presented on page 2, with estimates for the year ended January 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 January 2026, there are 62 individual routes published.

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, Airnorth and Skippers as well as the cargo carried by dedicated freighter aircraft operated by Qantas Freight and Team Global Express (formerly Toll).

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 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 5.41 million passengers carried on Australian domestic commercial aviation (including charter operations) in January 2026, compared with 5.45 million in January 2025 (down 0.8%). This is also an increase of 1.1% on pre-COVID January 2020 passenger numbers (5.35 million).

5.05 million passengers were carried on Regular Public Transport (RPT) flights in January 2026 (excluding charter operations), a decrease of 0.8% compared to January 2025.

For the month of January 2026, there were 49.3 thousand RPT aircraft trips, an increase of 0.3% on January 2025.

For the year ending January 2026, there were 60.40 million RPT passengers, an increase of 1.4% on the year ending January 2025.

RPT revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) performed were 6.19 billion for the month, compared with 6.26 billion in January 2025 (down 1.1%).

Capacity, measured by available seat kilometres (ASKs), increased to 7.63 billion in January 2026 compared to 7.44 billion in January 2025 (up 2.6%).

The industry wide load factor (RPKs/ASKs) decreased from 84.1% in January 2025 to 81.1% in January 2026. The highest load factor (91.7%) was recorded on the Canberra – Gold Coast route while the lowest load factor (43.8%) was recorded on the Brisbane – Moranbah route.

For the month of January 2026, Melbourne – Sydney was Australia's busiest RPT route with 640.8 thousand passengers, followed by Brisbane – Sydney with 338.8 thousand passengers and Brisbane – Melbourne with 317.0 thousand passengers.

Sydney was Australia's busiest domestic airport with 2.13 million passenger movements in January 2026, followed by Melbourne with 2.11 million passenger movements and Brisbane with 1.41 million passenger movements.

Total cargo movements at Australian airports on domestic RPT flights were 24.3 thousand tonnes in January 2026, a decrease of 0.6% compared with January 2025.

In January 2026, there were 2.07 million domestic passenger movements through regional airports, a decrease of 1.0% from January 2025. Out of the top 50 regional airports, the strongest increase was recorded at Kalgoorlie Airport (up 24.3% on January 2025), while the largest decrease was recorded at Moranbah Airport (down 25.4% on January 2025).

Fixed-wing charter operators carried 351.3 thousand passengers in January 2026, a decrease of 1.0% compared with January 2025. Perth Airport accounted for 35.7% of all charter passengers in Australia.

TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of monthly commercial aviation activity

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	5.45	5.41	-0.8
Aircraft trips (000s)	55.5	55.6	0.3

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

RPT NETWORK

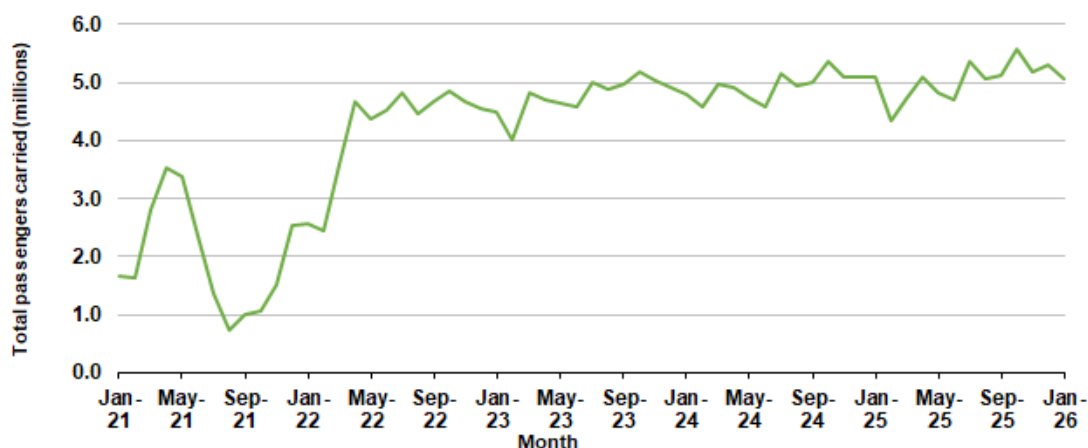
Summary of monthly RPT activity

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	5.10	5.05	-0.8
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	6.26	6.19	-1.1
Available seats (millions)	6.22	6.33	1.8
Available seat kilometres (billions)	7.44	7.63	2.6
Load factor %	84.1	81.1	-3.1 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	49.2	49.3	0.3

* percentage point difference

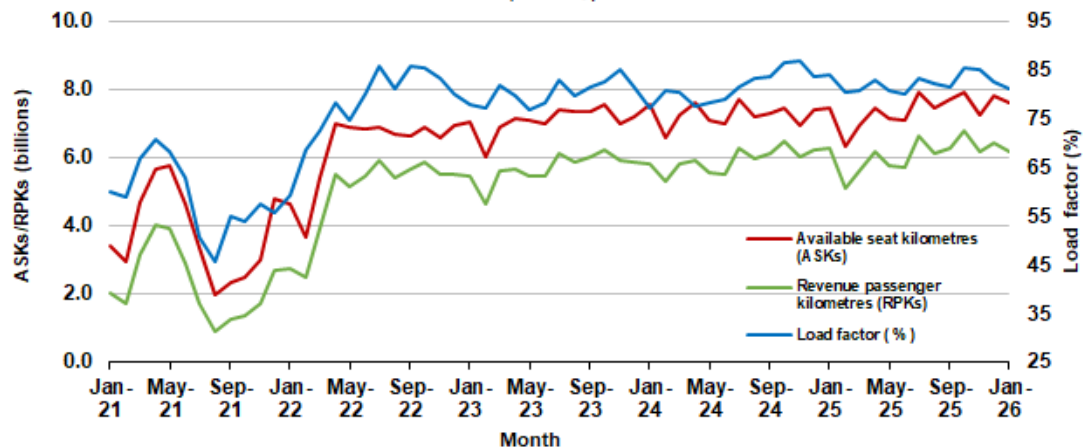
Domestic RPT passenger traffic

(monthly)



RPT Network utilisation

(monthly)



TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of annual commercial aviation activity

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	63.91	64.74	1.3
Aircraft trips (000s)	686.4	677.5	-1.3

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

RPT NETWORK

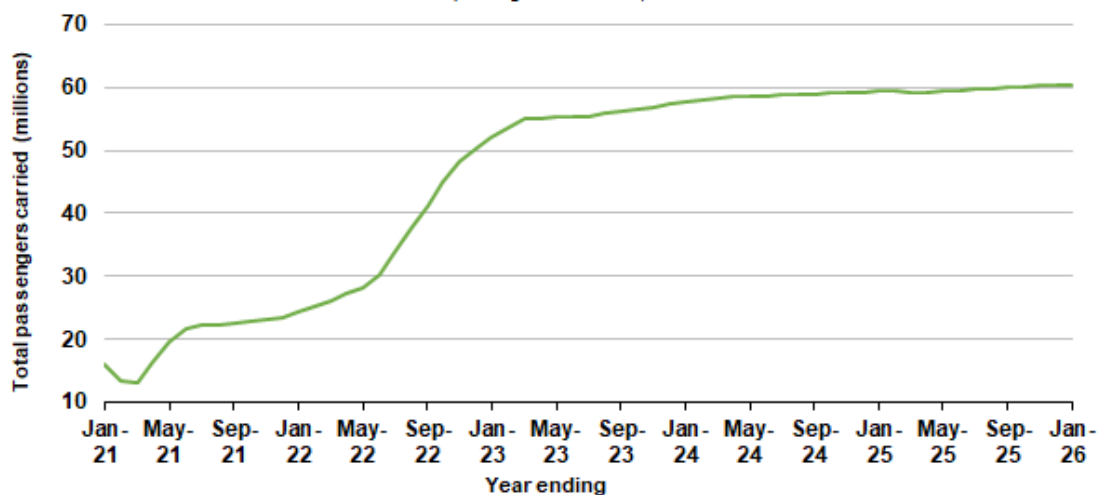
Summary of annual RPT activity

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	59.59	60.40	1.4
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	71.45	72.90	2.0
Available seats (millions)	74.37	74.95	0.8
Available seat kilometres (billions)	86.96	88.64	1.9
Load factor %	82.2	82.2	0.1 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	612.6	603.4	-1.5

* percentage point difference

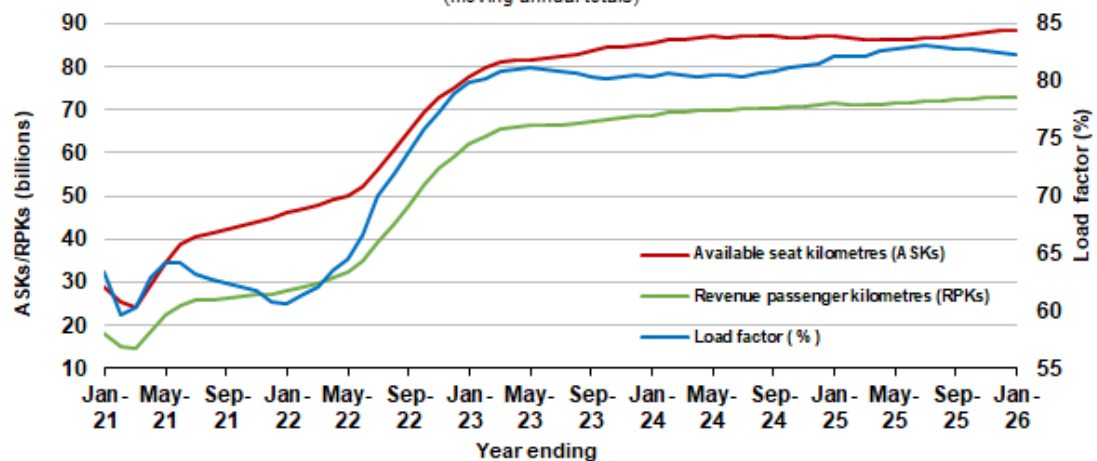
Domestic RPT passenger traffic

(moving annual totals)



RPT Network utilisation

(moving annual totals)



TOP COMPETITIVE ROUTES

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

	City-Pair	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	8 060.1	8 764.3	8.7
2	Brisbane - Sydney	4 375.9	4 387.7	0.3
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	3 540.2	3 656.7	3.3
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	2 539.5	2 775.8	9.3
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	2 333.7	2 587.1	10.9
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	2 202.2	2 145.7	-2.6
7	Melbourne - Perth	2 051.9	2 102.7	2.5
8	Adelaide - Sydney	1 884.1	1 904.7	1.1
9	Perth - Sydney	1 653.3	1 746.9	5.7
10	Hobart - Melbourne	1 387.3	1 455.7	4.9
11	Brisbane - Cairns	1 319.5	1 303.8	-1.2
12	Brisbane - Perth	1 104.6	1 137.0	2.9
13	Cairns - Sydney	929.9	1 005.9	8.2
14	Brisbane - Townsville	956.1	990.4	3.6
15	Canberra - Melbourne	1 006.6	975.5	-3.1
16	Launceston - Melbourne	863.8	896.1	3.7
17	Adelaide - Brisbane	875.5	877.0	0.2
18	Cairns - Melbourne	830.9	866.5	4.3
19	Hobart - Sydney	816.9	839.8	2.8
20	Brisbane - Mackay	769.3	824.6	7.2
21	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	783.2	803.6	2.6
22	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	740.9	759.4	2.5
23	Adelaide - Perth	702.2	721.7	2.8
24	Karratha - Perth	611.0	693.6	13.5
25	Brisbane - Canberra	642.0	652.3	1.6
26	Canberra - Sydney	640.7	610.8	-4.7
27	Brisbane - Rockhampton	592.9	602.7	1.6
28	Brisbane - Newcastle	515.4	524.6	1.8
29	Perth - Port Hedland	475.0	488.0	2.7
30	Melbourne - Newcastle	460.4	471.9	2.5
31	Ballina - Sydney	527.5	464.5	-12.0
32	Newman - Perth	403.1	443.3	10.0
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	367.1	403.0	9.8
34	Broome - Perth	355.8	374.5	5.2
35	Brisbane - Darwin	328.9	360.0	9.4
36	Launceston - Sydney	342.3	358.3	4.7
37	Brisbane - Hobart	308.1	323.3	4.9
38	Darwin - Melbourne	290.0	292.5	0.8
39	Brisbane - Proserpine	283.0	291.7	3.1
40	Adelaide - Gold Coast	281.9	277.2	-1.7
41	Hamilton Island - Sydney	250.7	273.5	9.1
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	226.1	217.0	-4.0
43	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	209.3	200.2	-4.3
44	Adelaide - Canberra	187.4	195.5	4.3
45	Darwin - Perth	183.6	190.5	3.7
46	Brisbane - Emerald	188.5	188.5	0.0
47	Dubbo - Sydney	172.9	185.3	7.1
48	Port Macquarie - Sydney	166.6	179.6	7.8
49	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	160.9	179.2	11.4
50	Canberra - Gold Coast	182.5	177.6	-2.7

continued

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

	City-Pair	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
51	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	165.0	171.0	3.6
52	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	169.5	167.7	-1.1
53	Albury - Sydney	161.2	156.4	-3.0
54	Melbourne - Mildura	158.0	153.2	-3.0
55	Brisbane - Launceston	156.5	152.1	-2.8
56	Brisbane - Mount Isa	149.7	151.3	1.1
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	142.4	150.0	5.3
58	Devonport - Melbourne	126.2	149.9	18.8
59	Geraldton - Perth	113.9	130.5	14.6
60	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	109.5	123.1	12.4
61	Adelaide - Alice Springs	107.1	103.6	-3.3
62	Brisbane - Moranbah	112.1	98.0	-12.5
	Total domestic network	59 587.9	60 399.3	1.4

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

	City-Pair	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	671.1	640.8	-4.5
2	Brisbane - Sydney	334.0	338.8	1.4
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	306.2	317.0	3.5
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	240.7	248.1	3.1
5	Gold Coast - Melbourne	231.5	230.3	-0.5
6	Adelaide - Melbourne	190.3	191.3	0.5
7	Melbourne - Perth	193.3	186.8	-3.4
8	Adelaide - Sydney	158.0	157.8	-0.1
9	Perth - Sydney	157.5	154.9	-1.6
10	Hobart - Melbourne	150.9	146.1	-3.2
11	Brisbane - Perth	104.1	101.0	-3.0
12	Hobart - Sydney	91.1	95.7	5.1
13	Brisbane - Cairns	104.3	95.0	-8.9
14	Launceston - Melbourne	92.6	90.5	-2.2
15	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	76.7	81.5	6.3
16	Cairns - Sydney	85.9	77.5	-9.7
17	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	77.5	75.9	-2.0
18	Adelaide - Brisbane	72.6	74.8	3.0
19	Brisbane - Townsville	74.3	73.9	-0.5
20	Cairns - Melbourne	78.4	66.8	-14.8
21	Canberra - Melbourne	69.4	65.8	-5.2
22	Adelaide - Perth	62.6	61.9	-1.2
23	Brisbane - Mackay	59.6	61.4	2.9
24	Karratha - Perth	47.3	53.7	13.4
25	Brisbane - Canberra	46.7	47.0	0.8
26	Ballina - Sydney	49.0	46.6	-4.9
27	Brisbane - Rockhampton	43.8	41.9	-4.4
28	Launceston - Sydney	37.5	41.1	9.5
29	Brisbane - Newcastle	40.2	40.8	1.7
30	Melbourne - Newcastle	38.5	39.7	3.2
31	Perth - Port Hedland	37.2	38.1	2.6
32	Canberra - Sydney	36.6	36.7	0.3
33	Brisbane - Hobart	34.3	35.9	4.7
34	Newman - Perth	34.4	34.6	0.6
35	Kalgoorlie - Perth	26.7	33.2	24.3
36	Adelaide - Gold Coast	28.6	27.9	-2.3
37	Brisbane - Proserpine	28.3	25.7	-9.2
38	Brisbane - Darwin	25.4	25.5	0.6
39	Broome - Perth	22.9	23.2	1.0
40	Hamilton Island - Sydney	25.0	21.8	-12.8
41	Darwin - Melbourne	21.9	21.7	-0.9
42	Brisbane - Launceston	19.3	19.9	3.2
43	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	14.9	17.1	15.1
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	16.8	16.5	-1.7
45	Brisbane - Gladstone	16.8	15.8	-6.4
46	Canberra - Gold Coast	15.9	15.7	-1.8
47	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	13.9	14.1	1.7
48	Brisbane - Emerald	14.7	13.3	-9.2
49	Port Macquarie - Sydney	12.4	13.0	5.1
50	Dubbo - Sydney	11.3	12.0	6.0

continued

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

	City-Pair	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
51	Darwin - Perth	13.4	11.9	-11.1
52	Devonport - Melbourne	10.7	11.8	10.3
53	Brisbane - Mount Isa	11.4	11.8	3.3
54	Melbourne - Mildura	10.9	11.7	7.9
55	Albury - Sydney	10.8	11.4	5.8
56	Adelaide - Canberra	12.4	11.4	-8.5
57	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	10.3	10.9	5.9
58	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	9.2	10.3	11.5
59	Brisbane - Bundaberg	10.3	10.3	-0.1
60	Geraldton - Perth	8.4	8.6	2.3
61	Adelaide - Alice Springs	7.4	7.4	0.9
62	Brisbane - Moranbah	8.9	6.6	-25.4
	Total domestic network	5 095.2	5 053.8	-0.8

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

	City-Pair	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	734.1	728.3	-0.8
2	Brisbane - Sydney	381.9	409.3	7.2
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	354.4	378.7	6.8
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	261.3	272.6	4.3
5	Gold Coast - Melbourne	259.9	252.8	-2.7
6	Adelaide - Melbourne	230.4	231.9	0.7
7	Melbourne - Perth	214.3	216.8	1.1
8	Adelaide - Sydney	186.5	199.8	7.2
9	Perth - Sydney	176.2	187.3	6.3
10	Hobart - Melbourne	174.9	177.4	1.4
11	Brisbane - Perth	120.8	124.0	2.6
12	Hobart - Sydney	100.7	113.7	12.9
13	Brisbane - Cairns	117.7	117.9	0.2
14	Launceston - Melbourne	113.5	110.6	-2.6
15	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	87.2	94.5	8.5
16	Cairns - Sydney	93.8	93.3	-0.5
17	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	89.9	88.5	-1.5
18	Adelaide - Brisbane	89.5	98.2	9.8
19	Brisbane - Townsville	88.9	97.2	9.3
20	Cairns - Melbourne	88.9	81.3	-8.5
21	Canberra - Melbourne	87.3	86.1	-1.4
22	Adelaide - Perth	74.9	81.6	9.0
23	Brisbane - Mackay	71.9	80.6	12.1
24	Karratha - Perth	75.7	82.7	9.3
25	Brisbane - Canberra	63.9	63.9	0.1
26	Ballina - Sydney	54.1	52.0	-4.0
27	Brisbane - Rockhampton	51.8	49.4	-4.8
28	Launceston - Sydney	40.8	49.3	21.0
29	Brisbane - Newcastle	47.3	49.8	5.1
30	Melbourne - Newcastle	42.8	45.3	5.9
31	Perth - Port Hedland	61.3	63.4	3.4
32	Canberra - Sydney	61.4	57.8	-5.8
33	Brisbane - Hobart	38.4	41.8	8.7
34	Newman - Perth	57.5	58.5	1.8
35	Kalgoorlie - Perth	54.0	57.6	6.7
36	Adelaide - Gold Coast	32.4	30.7	-5.3
37	Brisbane - Proserpine	31.5	30.6	-2.9
38	Brisbane - Darwin	30.9	31.1	0.5
39	Broome - Perth	33.3	35.5	6.7
40	Hamilton Island - Sydney	28.1	26.6	-5.3
41	Darwin - Melbourne	27.4	26.0	-5.1
42	Brisbane - Launceston	21.4	23.8	11.3
43	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	19.2	23.3	21.8
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	27.6	23.8	-13.7
45	Brisbane - Gladstone	26.3	24.3	-7.4
46	Canberra - Gold Coast	17.5	17.1	-2.6
47	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	21.1	22.6	7.2
48	Brisbane - Emerald	23.0	21.8	-5.4
49	Port Macquarie - Sydney	17.2	18.0	4.2
50	Dubbo - Sydney	18.9	17.0	-9.9

continued

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

	City-Pair	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
51	Darwin - Perth	16.6	17.1	3.0
52	Devonport - Melbourne	14.7	16.8	13.9
53	Brisbane - Mount Isa	16.9	20.1	18.9
54	Melbourne - Mildura	16.3	17.8	9.2
55	Albury - Sydney	16.9	15.1	-10.9
56	Adelaide - Canberra	18.7	16.4	-12.4
57	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	17.3	16.8	-3.3
58	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	13.2	12.8	-3.2
59	Brisbane - Bundaberg	15.9	15.0	-5.3
60	Geraldton - Perth	17.5	18.3	4.3
61	Adelaide - Alice Springs	10.8	10.7	-0.6
62	Brisbane - Moranbah	16.4	15.2	-7.4
	Total domestic network	6 219.4	6 331.3	1.8

Table 4: Load factors (%) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Point diff
1	Melbourne - Sydney	91.4	88.0	-3.4
2	Brisbane - Sydney	87.5	82.8	-4.7
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	86.4	83.7	-2.7
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	92.1	91.0	-1.1
5	Gold Coast - Melbourne	89.1	91.1	2.0
6	Adelaide - Melbourne	82.6	82.5	-0.1
7	Melbourne - Perth	90.2	86.2	-4.0
8	Adelaide - Sydney	84.7	79.0	-5.7
9	Perth - Sydney	89.4	82.7	-6.7
10	Hobart - Melbourne	86.3	82.3	-4.0
11	Brisbane - Perth	86.2	81.4	-4.8
12	Hobart - Sydney	90.4	84.2	-6.2
13	Brisbane - Cairns	88.7	80.6	-8.1
14	Launceston - Melbourne	81.6	81.9	0.3
15	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	88.0	86.2	-1.8
16	Cairns - Sydney	91.6	83.1	-8.5
17	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	86.2	85.8	-0.4
18	Adelaide - Brisbane	81.1	76.1	-5.0
19	Brisbane - Townsville	83.5	76.0	-7.5
20	Cairns - Melbourne	88.2	82.2	-6.0
21	Canberra - Melbourne	79.6	76.5	-3.1
22	Adelaide - Perth	83.6	75.8	-7.8
23	Brisbane - Mackay	82.9	76.2	-6.7
24	Karratha - Perth	62.6	64.9	2.3
25	Brisbane - Canberra	73.0	73.6	0.6
26	Ballina - Sydney	90.5	89.6	-0.9
27	Brisbane - Rockhampton	84.5	84.8	0.3
28	Launceston - Sydney	92.0	83.3	-8.7
29	Brisbane - Newcastle	84.8	82.1	-2.7
30	Melbourne - Newcastle	89.9	87.7	-2.2
31	Perth - Port Hedland	60.7	60.2	-0.5
32	Canberra - Sydney	59.6	63.5	3.9
33	Brisbane - Hobart	89.4	86.1	-3.3
34	Newman - Perth	59.7	59.0	-0.7
35	Kalgoorlie - Perth	49.5	57.7	8.2
36	Adelaide - Gold Coast	88.3	91.1	2.8
37	Brisbane - Proserpine	90.0	84.2	-5.8
38	Brisbane - Darwin	82.0	82.1	0.1
39	Broome - Perth	68.9	65.2	-3.7
40	Hamilton Island - Sydney	89.0	81.9	-7.1
41	Darwin - Melbourne	80.0	83.5	3.5
42	Brisbane - Launceston	90.4	83.8	-6.6
43	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	77.6	73.3	-4.3
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	61.0	69.4	8.4
45	Brisbane - Gladstone	64.1	64.8	0.7
46	Canberra - Gold Coast	90.9	91.7	0.8
47	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	65.9	62.5	-3.4
48	Brisbane - Emerald	63.7	61.1	-2.6
49	Port Macquarie - Sydney	71.7	72.3	0.6
50	Dubbo - Sydney	60.1	70.7	10.6

continued

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

	City-Pair	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Point diff
51	Darwin - Perth	80.9	69.8	-11.1
52	Devonport - Melbourne	72.8	70.5	-2.3
53	Brisbane - Mount Isa	67.3	58.5	-8.8
54	Melbourne - Mildura	66.4	65.6	-0.8
55	Albury - Sydney	63.8	75.8	12.0
56	Adelaide - Canberra	66.5	69.4	2.9
57	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	59.5	65.2	5.7
58	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	69.8	80.4	10.6
59	Brisbane - Bundaberg	64.9	68.5	3.6
60	Geraldton - Perth	47.9	47.0	-0.9
61	Adelaide - Alice Springs	68.3	69.4	1.1
62	Brisbane - Moranbah	54.3	43.8	-10.5
	Total domestic network	84.1	81.1	-3.1

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

	City-Pair	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	4 143	4 178	0.8
2	Brisbane - Sydney	2 290	2 428	6.0
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	2 104	2 294	9.0
4	Gold Coast - Sydney	1 484	1 548	4.3
5	Gold Coast - Melbourne	1 405	1 369	-2.6
6	Adelaide - Melbourne	1 355	1 414	4.4
7	Melbourne - Perth	1 189	1 195	0.5
8	Adelaide - Sydney	1 081	1 153	6.7
9	Perth - Sydney	938	1 015	8.2
10	Hobart - Melbourne	962	978	1.7
11	Brisbane - Perth	690	710	2.9
12	Hobart - Sydney	567	608	7.2
13	Brisbane - Cairns	838	855	2.0
14	Launceston - Melbourne	731	773	5.7
15	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	482	555	15.1
16	Cairns - Sydney	507	520	2.6
17	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	485	491	1.2
18	Adelaide - Brisbane	677	719	6.2
19	Brisbane - Townsville	718	713	-0.7
20	Cairns - Melbourne	466	432	-7.3
21	Canberra - Melbourne	543	667	22.8
22	Adelaide - Perth	411	468	13.9
23	Brisbane - Mackay	592	677	14.4
24	Karratha - Perth	460	502	9.1
25	Brisbane - Canberra	483	492	1.9
26	Ballina - Sydney	354	350	-1.1
27	Brisbane - Rockhampton	587	562	-4.3
28	Launceston - Sydney	239	310	29.7
29	Brisbane - Newcastle	382	402	5.2
30	Melbourne - Newcastle	265	288	8.7
31	Perth - Port Hedland	373	379	1.6
32	Canberra - Sydney	754	1 032	36.9
33	Brisbane - Hobart	245	267	9.0
34	Newman - Perth	354	361	2.0
35	Kalgoorlie - Perth	378	383	1.3
36	Adelaide - Gold Coast	172	168	-2.3
37	Brisbane - Proserpine	190	168	-11.6
38	Brisbane - Darwin	176	174	-1.1
39	Broome - Perth	231	235	1.7
40	Hamilton Island - Sydney	160	152	-5.0
41	Darwin - Melbourne	152	145	-4.6
42	Brisbane - Launceston	129	142	10.1
43	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	136	144	5.9
44	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	315	337	7.0
45	Brisbane - Gladstone	297	289	-2.7
46	Canberra - Gold Coast	98	94	-4.1
47	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	509	449	-11.8
48	Brisbane - Emerald	300	294	-2.0
49	Port Macquarie - Sydney	269	274	1.9
50	Dubbo - Sydney	321	279	-13.1

continued

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

	City-Pair	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
51	Darwin - Perth	110	104	-5.5
52	Devonport - Melbourne	247	262	6.1
53	Brisbane - Mount Isa	224	200	-10.7
54	Melbourne - Mildura	312	317	1.6
55	Albury - Sydney	273	233	-14.7
56	Adelaide - Canberra	164	154	-6.1
57	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	283	258	-8.8
58	Ayers Rock - Melbourne	74	70	-5.4
59	Brisbane - Bundaberg	243	231	-4.9
60	Geraldton - Perth	207	202	-2.4
61	Adelaide - Alice Springs	131	129	-1.5
62	Brisbane - Moranbah	218	201	-7.8
	Total domestic network	49 154	49 291	0.3

(a) Includes RPT cargo flights.

TOP TEN AIRPORTS – PASSENGER MOVEMENTS

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

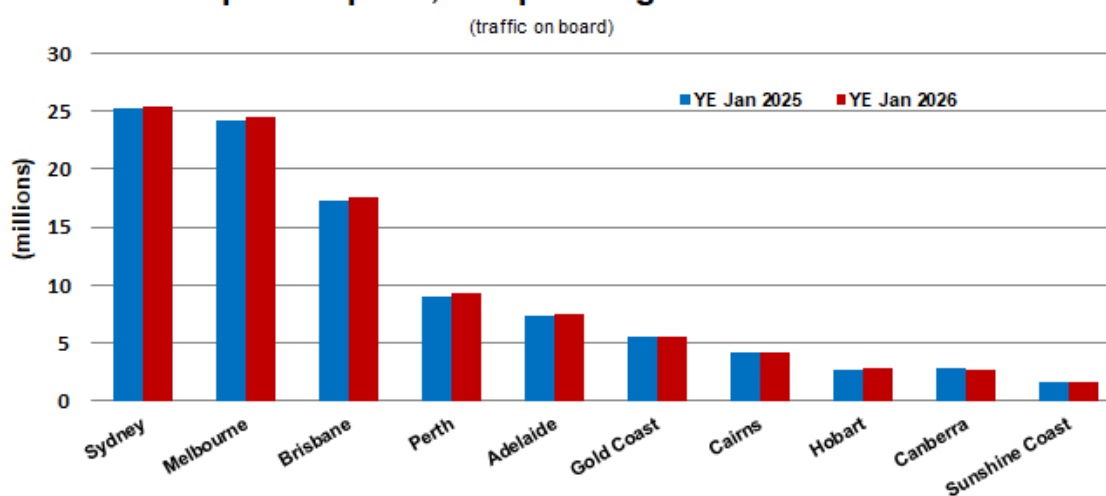
Airport	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change	% of Total
1 Sydney	2 147.3	2 127.8	-0.9	21.1
2 Melbourne	2 149.2	2 105.5	-2.0	20.8
3 Brisbane	1 408.2	1 407.8	0.0	13.9
4 Perth	785.3	784.6	-0.1	7.8
5 Adelaide	618.8	619.7	0.2	6.1
6 Gold Coast	554.0	558.9	0.9	5.5
7 Cairns	350.9	322.8	-8.0	3.2
8 Hobart	302.8	310.1	2.4	3.1
9 Canberra	192.2	187.9	-2.2	1.9
10 Sunshine Coast	165.6	167.5	1.2	1.7
Total top ten airports	8 674.2	8 592.6	-0.9	85.0
Total domestic network	10 190.4	10 107.6	-0.8	100.0

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

Airport	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change	% of Total
1 Sydney	25 247.4	25 394.4	0.6	21.0
2 Melbourne	24 246.0	24 545.8	1.2	20.3
3 Brisbane	17 265.7	17 586.3	1.9	14.6
4 Perth	8 960.8	9 355.4	4.4	7.7
5 Adelaide	7 404.1	7 539.5	1.8	6.2
6 Gold Coast	5 598.7	5 505.1	-1.7	4.6
7 Cairns	4 126.2	4 155.3	0.7	3.4
8 Hobart	2 755.5	2 872.7	4.3	2.4
9 Canberra	2 801.2	2 759.5	-1.5	2.3
10 Sunshine Coast	1 682.0	1 690.5	0.5	1.4
Total top ten airports	100 087.4	101 404.5	1.3	83.9
Total domestic network	119 175.8	120 798.5	1.4	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	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change	% of Total
1 Melbourne	6.7	6.7	0.4	27.7
2 Sydney	5.0	5.0	0.4	20.5
3 Brisbane	4.3	4.4	2.2	18.3
4 Perth	2.7	2.6	-4.7	10.7
5 Adelaide	1.4	1.4	5.2	5.9
Total top five airports	20.1	20.2	0.4	83.1
Total domestic network	24.5	24.3	-0.6	100.0

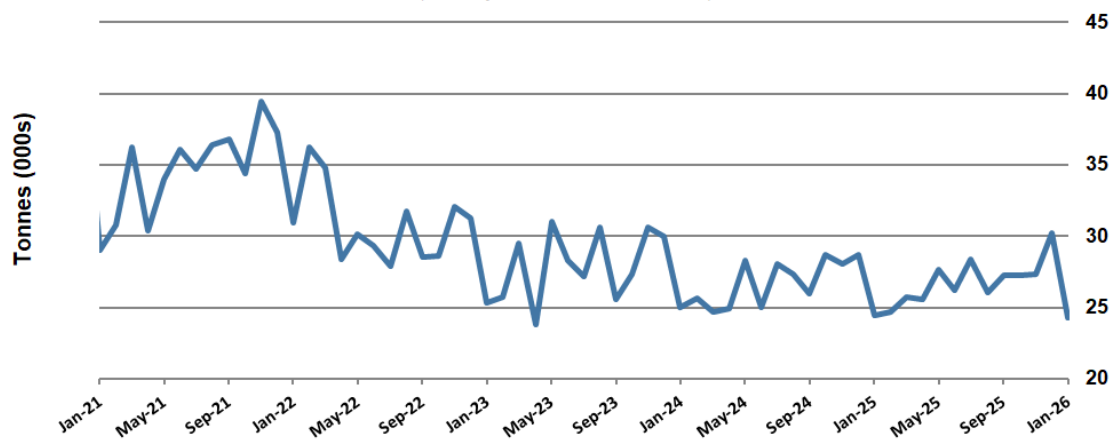
Table 9: Top five airports, domestic RPT cargo movements (000s tonnes) - annual activity

Airport	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change	% of Total
1 Melbourne	87.4	89.0	1.8	27.8
2 Sydney	67.8	67.4	-0.6	21.0
3 Brisbane	57.9	57.5	-0.7	17.9
4 Perth	36.5	36.0	-1.3	11.2
5 Adelaide	17.7	16.5	-6.4	5.2
Total top five airports	267.2	266.4	-0.3	83.1
Total domestic network	319.8	320.6	0.3	100.0

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

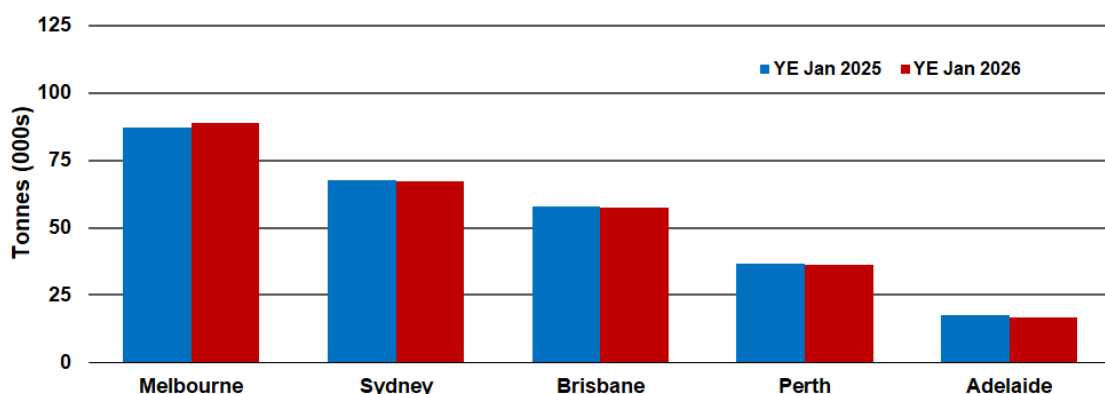
Total domestic network - cargo movement

(monthly totals - traffic on board)



Top five airports, cargo movements

(Domestic cargo traffic - traffic on board)



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

TOP TEN ROUTES

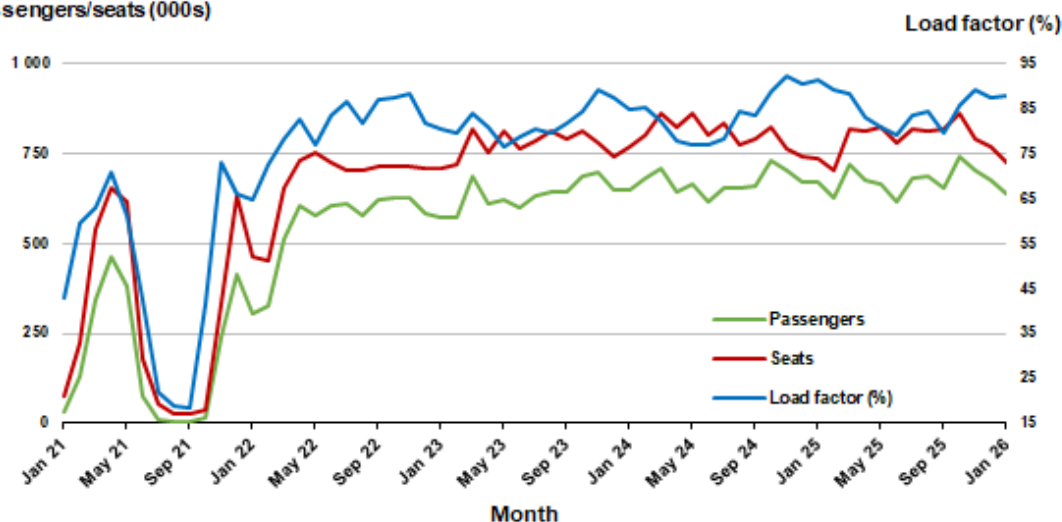
1. Melbourne - Sydney

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	671.1	640.8	-4.5
Seats (000s)	734.1	728.3	-0.8
Load factor %	91.4	88.0	-3.4 *
Aircraft trips	4 143	4 178	0.8

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

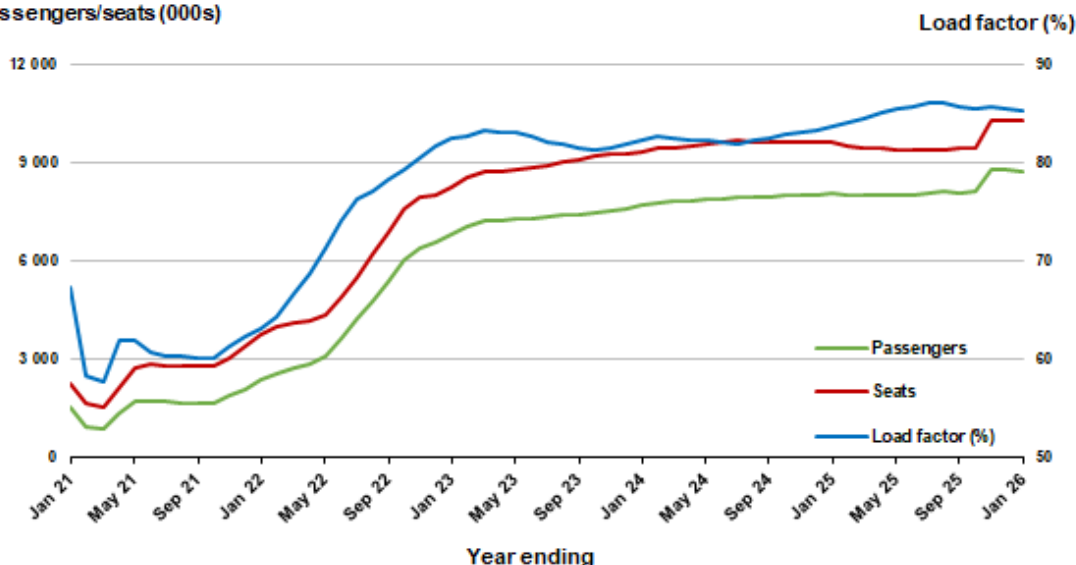


Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	8 060.1	8 764.3	8.7
Seats (000s)	9 616.9	10 278.0	6.9
Load factor %	83.8	85.3	1.5 *
Aircraft trips	55 348	58 667	6.0

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

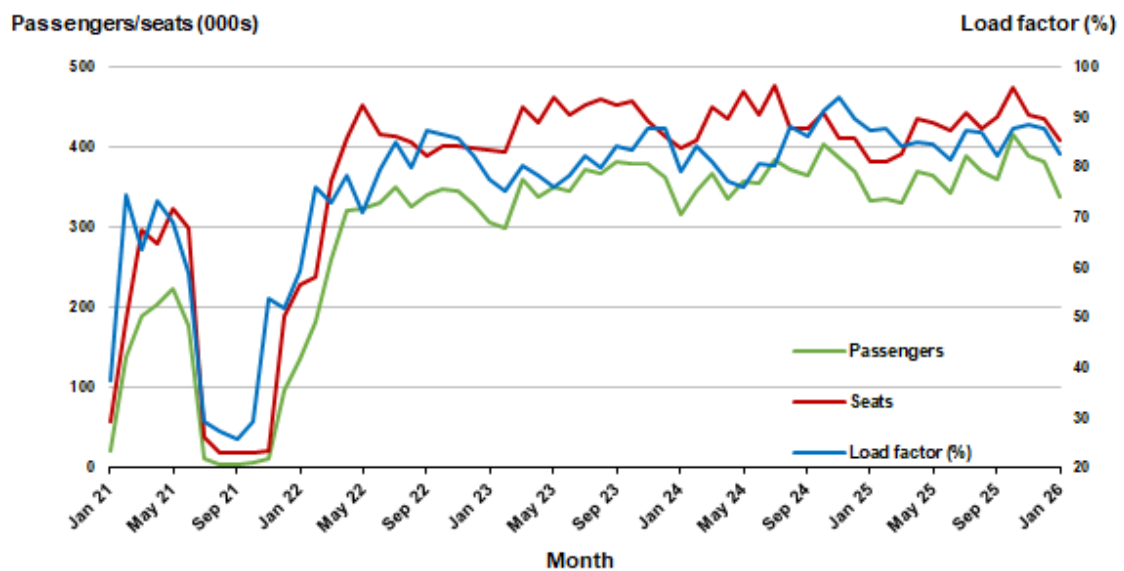


2. Brisbane - Sydney

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	334.0	338.8	1.4
Seats (000s)	381.9	409.3	7.2
Load factor %	87.5	82.8	-4.7 *
Aircraft trips	2 290	2 428	6.0

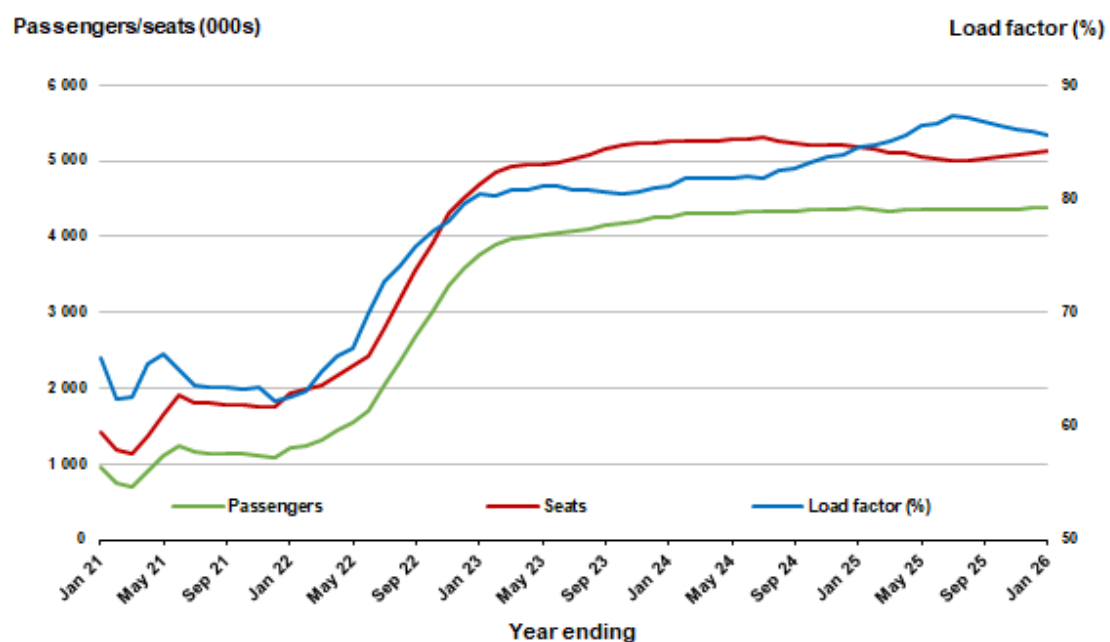
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	4 375.9	4 387.7	0.3
Seats (000s)	5 180.2	5 126.9	-1.0
Load factor %	84.5	85.6	1.1 *
Aircraft trips	31 268	30 497	-2.5

* percentage point difference

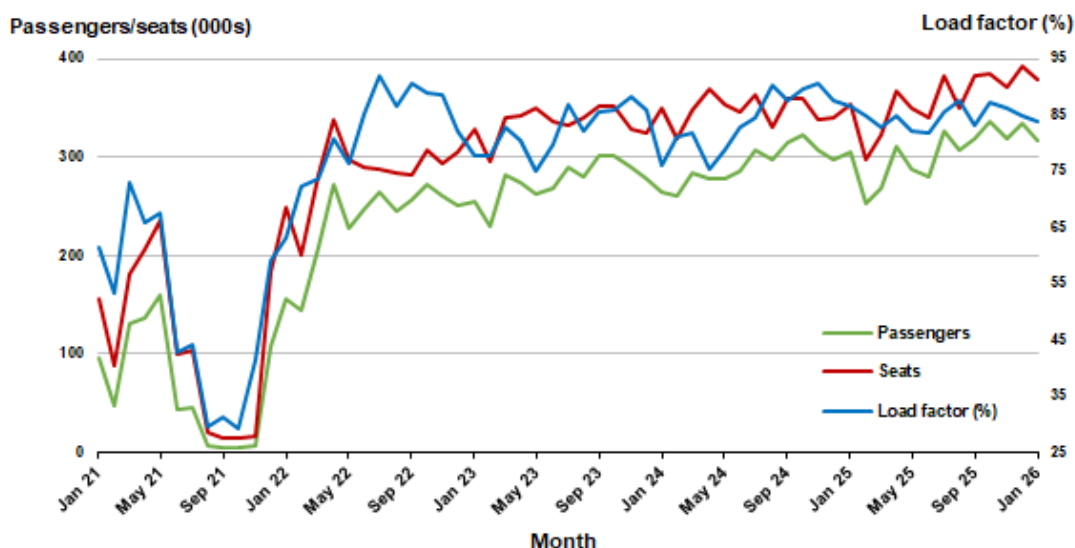


3. Brisbane - Melbourne

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	306.2	317.0	3.5
Seats (000s)	354.4	378.7	6.8
Load factor %	86.4	83.7	-2.7 *
Aircraft trips	2 104	2 294	9.0

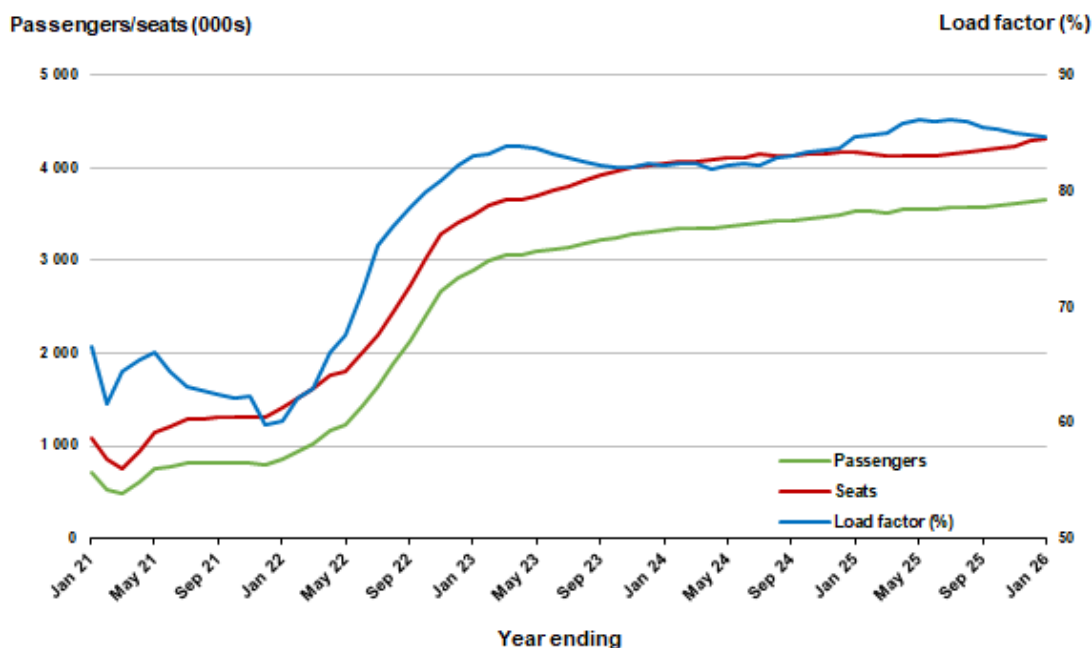
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	3 540.2	3 656.7	3.3
Seats (000s)	4 181.8	4 321.2	3.3
Load factor %	84.7	84.6	0.0 *
Aircraft trips	25 024	26 198	4.7

* percentage point difference



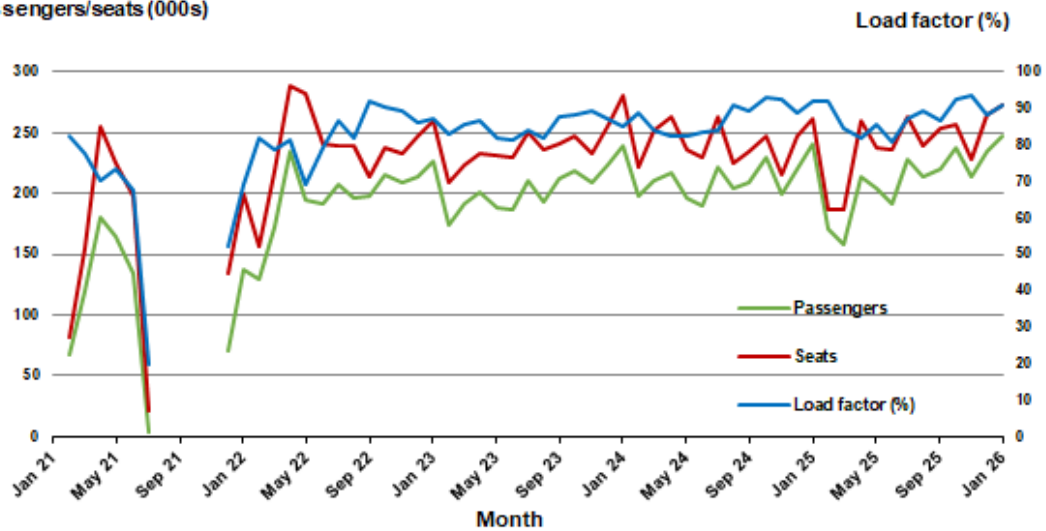
4. Gold Coast - Sydney ^(a)

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	240.7	248.1	3.1
Seats (000s)	261.3	272.6	4.3
Load factor %	92.1	91.0	-1.1 *
Aircraft trips	1 484	1 548	4.3

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



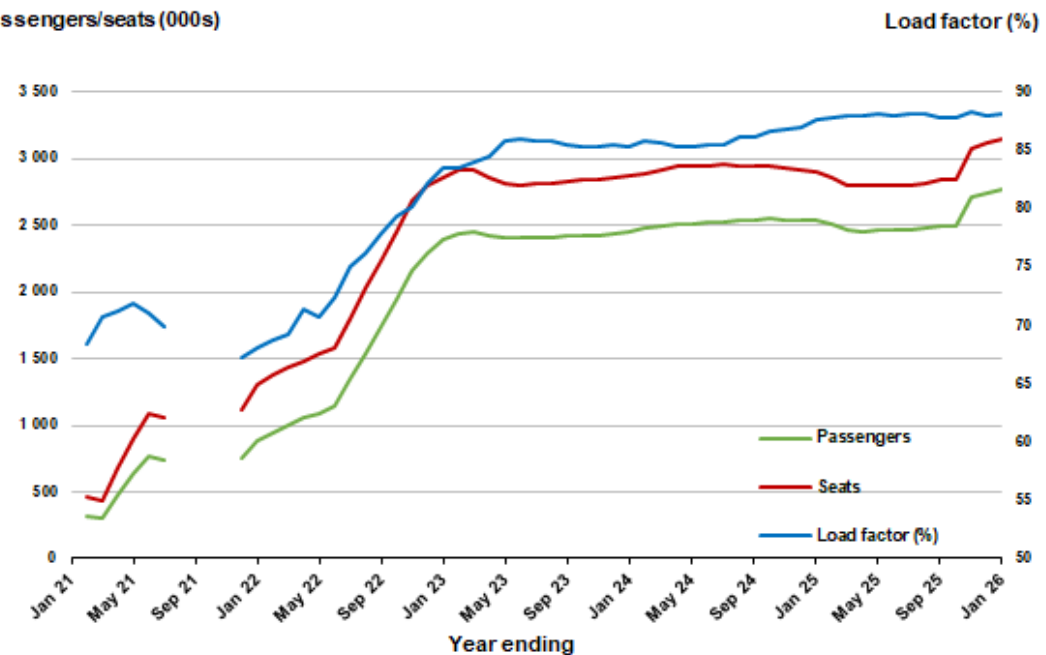
(a) January and August to November 2021 data not available for release.

Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 539.5	2 775.8	9.3
Seats (000s)	2 898.4	3 149.5	8.7
Load factor %	87.6	88.1	0.5 *
Aircraft trips	16 352	17 854	9.2

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



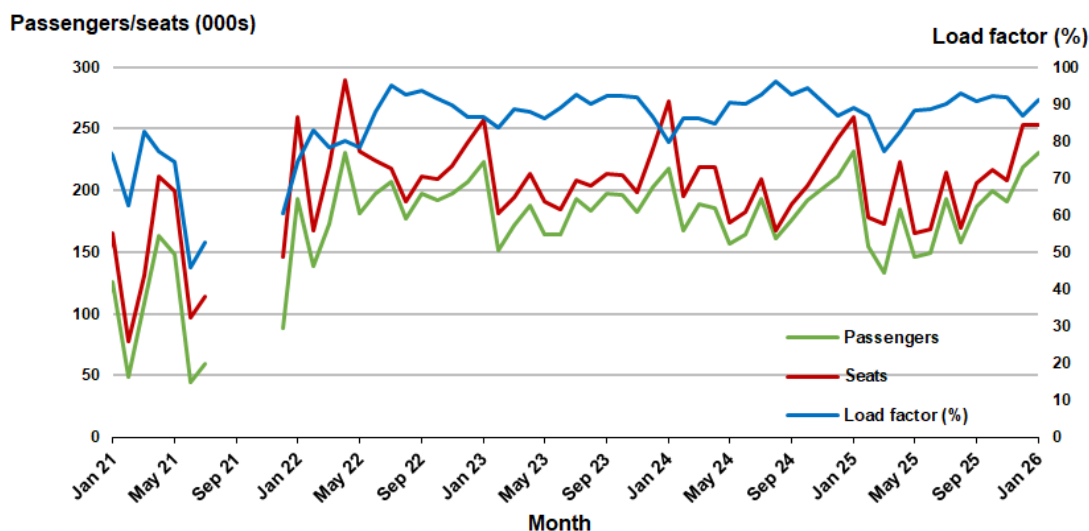
(a) January and August to November 2021 moving annual totals not available for release.

5. Gold Coast - Melbourne ^(a)

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	231.5	230.3	-0.5
Seats (000s)	259.9	252.8	-2.7
Load factor %	89.1	91.1	2.0 *
Aircraft trips	1 405	1 369	-2.6

* percentage point difference

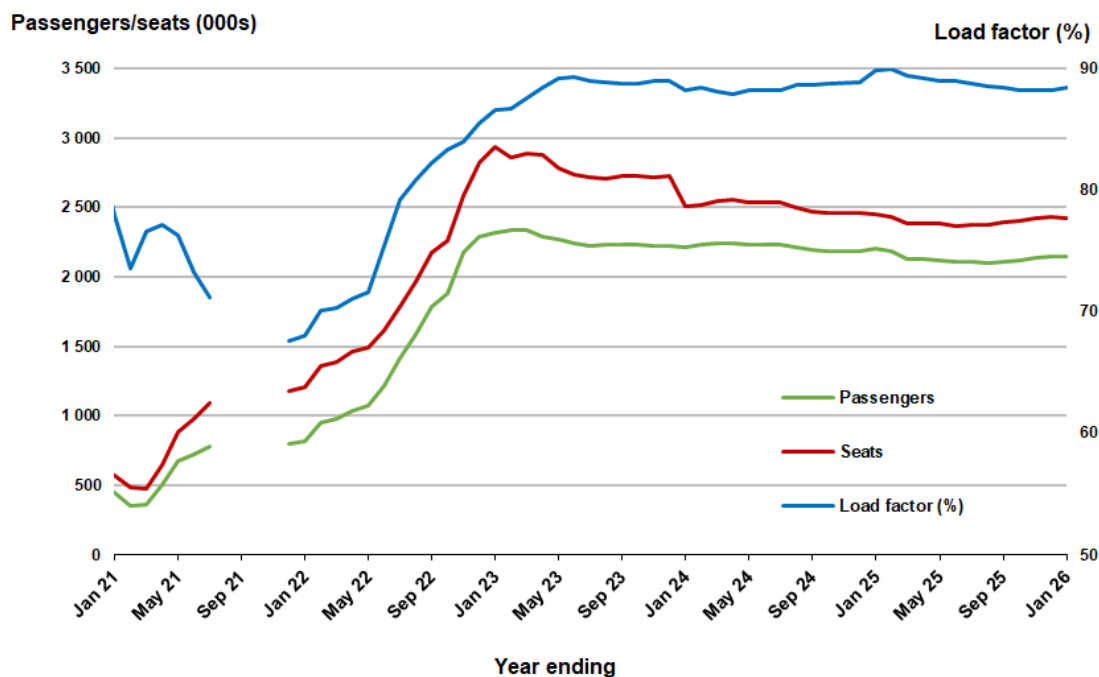


(a) August to November 2021 data not available for release.

Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 202.2	2 145.7	-2.6
Seats (000s)	2 449.4	2 427.3	-0.9
Load factor %	89.9	88.4	-1.5 *
Aircraft trips	13 295	13 091	-1.5

* percentage point difference



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

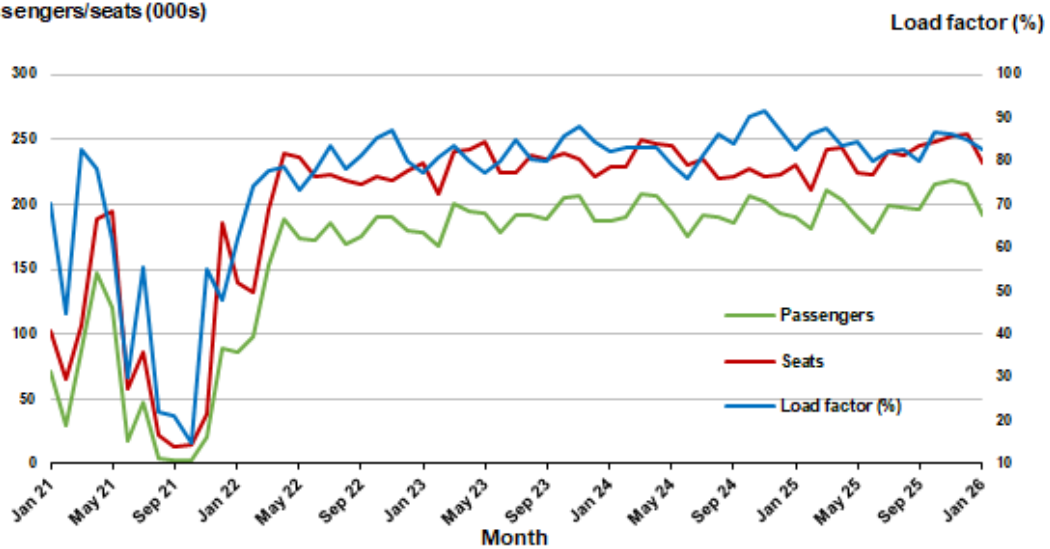
6. Adelaide - Melbourne

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	190.3	191.3	0.5
Seats (000s)	230.4	231.9	0.7
Load factor %	82.6	82.5	-0.1 *
Aircraft trips	1 355	1 414	4.4

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

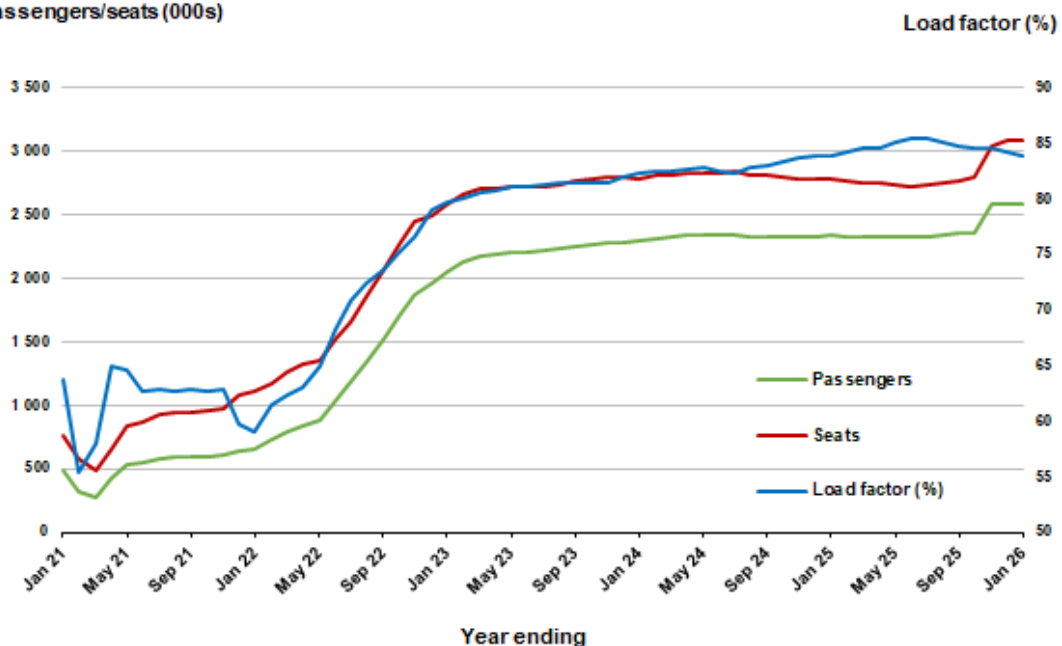


Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 333.7	2 587.1	10.9
Seats (000s)	2 782.0	3 086.8	11.0
Load factor %	83.9	83.8	-0.1 *
Aircraft trips	16 707	18 339	9.8

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

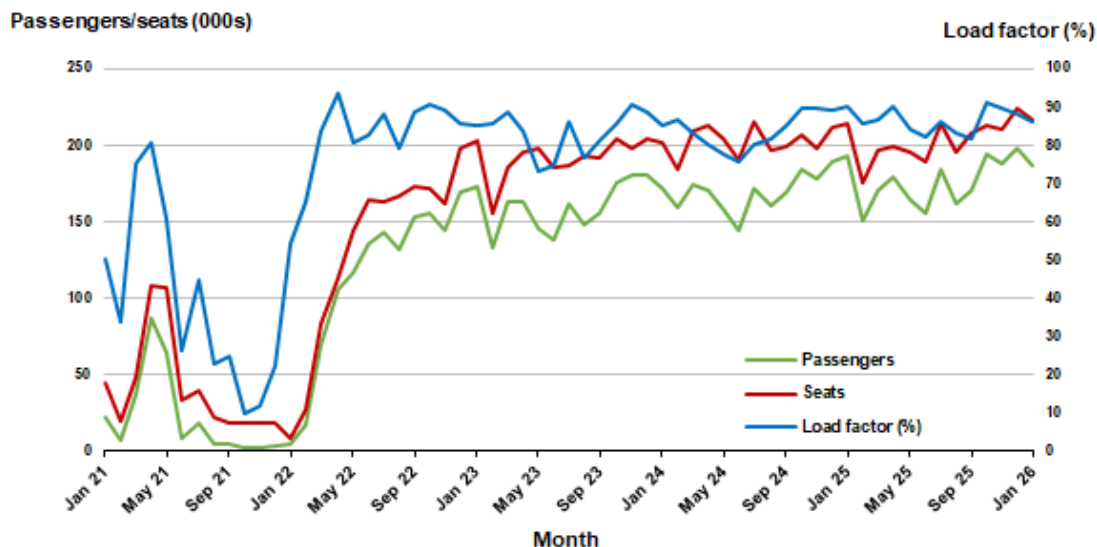


7. Melbourne - Perth

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	193.3	186.8	-3.4
Seats (000s)	214.3	216.8	1.1
Load factor %	90.2	86.2	-4.0 *
Aircraft trips	1 189	1 195	0.5

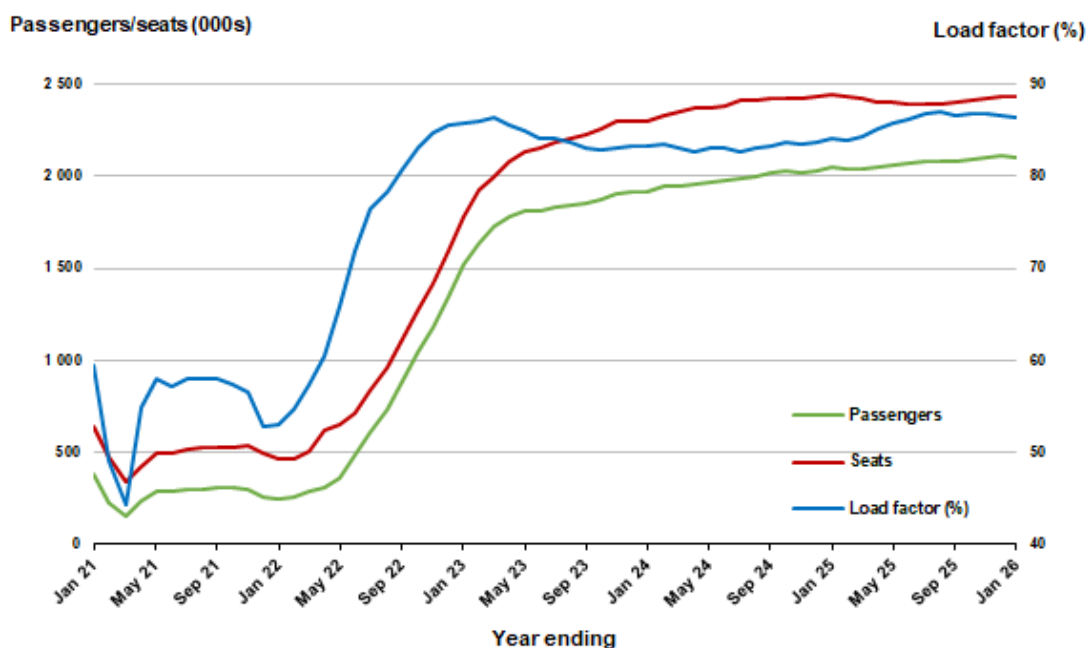
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 051.9	2 102.7	2.5
Seats (000s)	2 440.7	2 435.8	-0.2
Load factor %	84.1	86.3	2.3 *
Aircraft trips	13 409	13 644	1.8

* percentage point difference

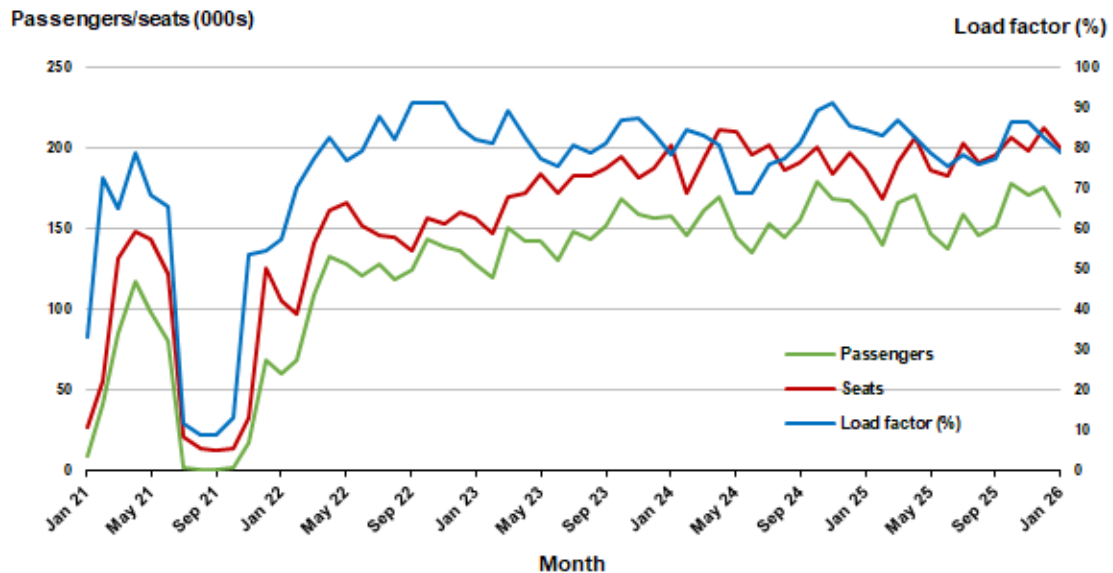


8. Adelaide - Sydney

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	158.0	157.8	-0.1
Seats (000s)	186.5	199.8	7.2
Load factor %	84.7	79.0	-5.7 *
Aircraft trips	1 081	1 153	6.7

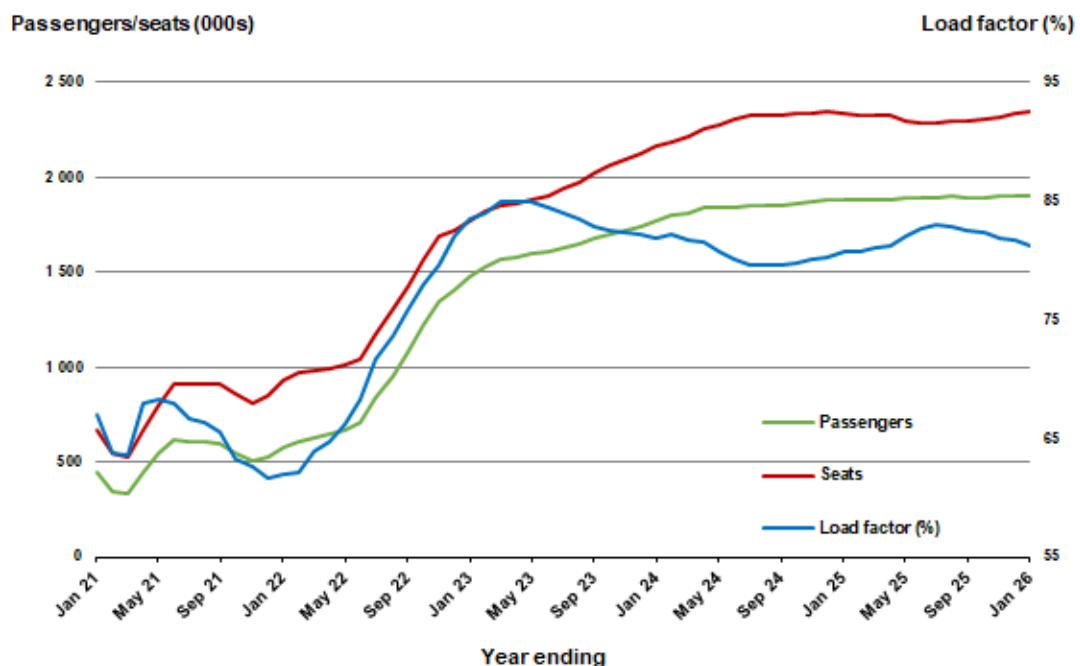
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 884.1	1 904.7	1.1
Seats (000s)	2 332.7	2 345.3	0.5
Load factor %	80.8	81.2	0.4 *
Aircraft trips	13 879	13 665	-1.5

* percentage point difference

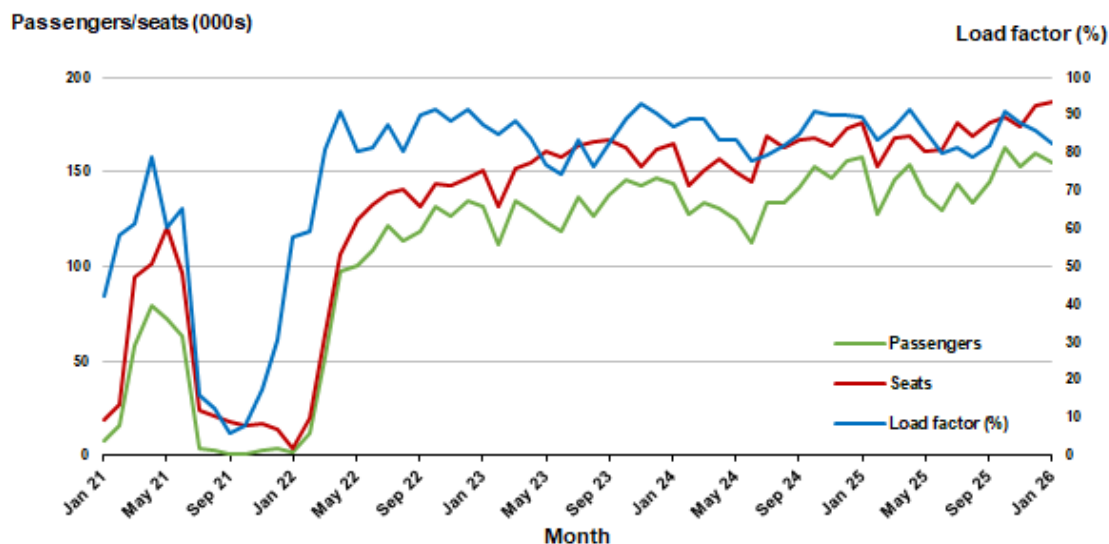


9. Perth - Sydney

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	157.5	154.9	- 1.6
Seats (000s)	176.2	187.3	6.3
Load factor %	89.4	82.7	-6.7 *
Aircraft trips	938	1 015	8.2

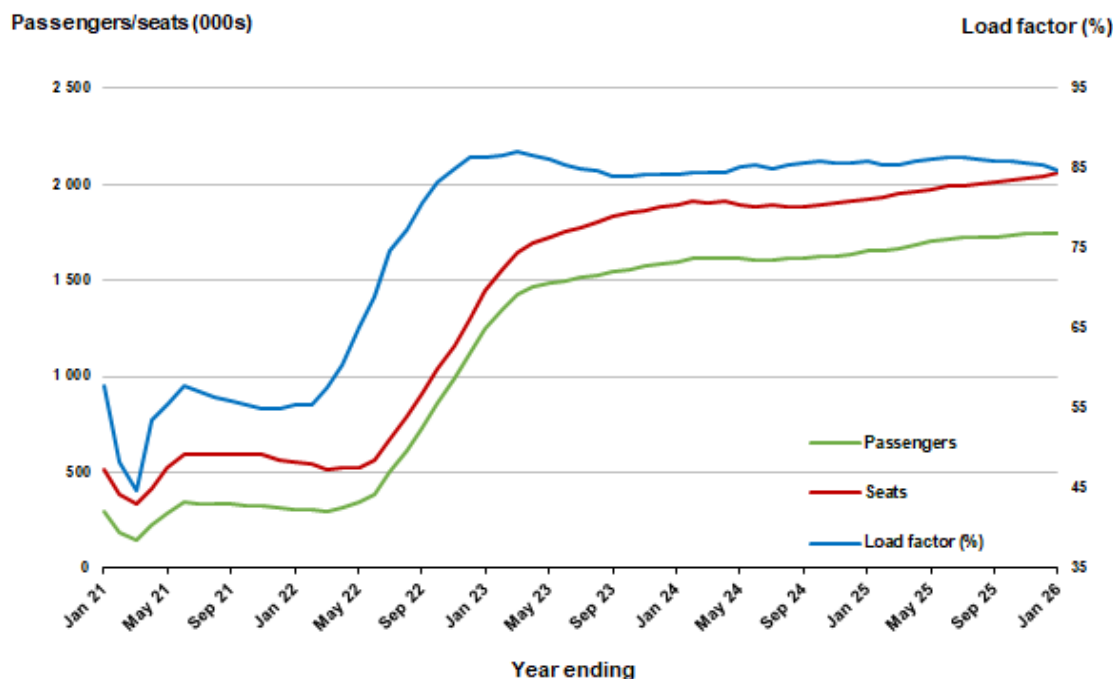
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 653.3	1 746.9	5.7
Seats (000s)	1 924.1	2 059.0	7.0
Load factor %	85.9	84.8	-1.1 *
Aircraft trips	10 130	10 982	8.4

* percentage point difference

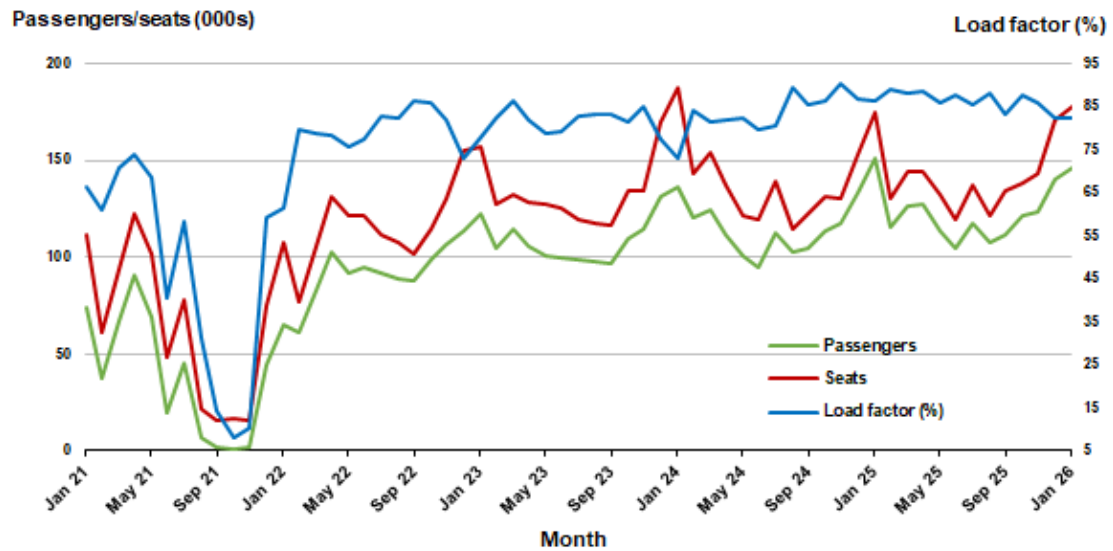


10. Hobart - Melbourne

Monthly data

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	150.9	146.1	-3.2
Seats (000s)	174.9	177.4	1.4
Load factor %	86.3	82.3	-4.0 *
Aircraft trips	962	978	1.7

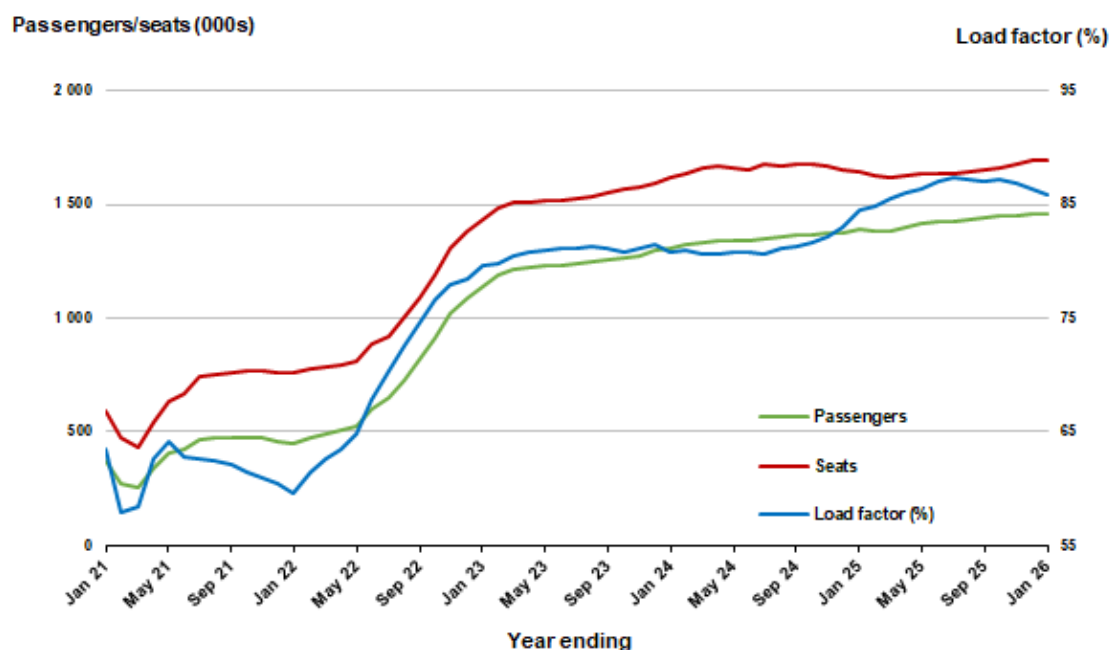
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 387.3	1 455.7	4.9
Seats (000s)	1 641.7	1 694.0	3.2
Load factor %	84.5	85.9	1.4 *
Aircraft trips	9 712	9 738	0.3

* percentage point difference



TOP FIFTY REGIONAL AIRPORTS

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

Airport	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
1 Cairns	350.9	322.8	-8.0
2 Hobart	302.8	310.1	2.4
3 Launceston	158.9	160.7	1.1
4 Townsville	126.1	122.2	-3.1
5 Darwin	111.9	108.5	-3.1
6 Newcastle	93.5	103.6	10.8
7 Mackay	68.4	67.8	-0.8
8 Ballina	59.1	56.9	-3.8
9 Karratha	48.3	54.7	13.3
10 Proserpine	50.3	50.3	0.1
11 Hamilton Island	47.2	44.8	-4.9
12 Rockhampton	46.9	44.1	-5.9
13 Port Hedland	38.0	38.9	2.4
14 Newman	34.5	34.6	0.3
15 Kalgoorlie	26.7	33.2	24.3
16 Broome	25.5	25.7	0.6
17 Alice Springs	22.3	23.1	3.7
18 Ayers Rock	24.5	23.0	-6.1
19 Coffs Harbour	22.1	22.2	0.1
20 Hervey Bay	19.7	20.9	5.9
21 Mount Isa	17.6	18.9	7.3
22 Paraburdoo	22.0	17.0	-22.6
23 Albury	15.6	17.0	8.5
24 Gladstone	16.9	15.8	-6.8
25 Wagga Wagga	14.3	15.2	6.1
26 Port Macquarie	14.5	15.0	3.0
27 Port Lincoln	13.9	14.1	1.7
28 Emerald	15.5	14.0	-9.2
29 Mildura	13.6	13.9	2.8
30 Dubbo	13.5	13.8	2.6
31 Devonport	10.7	11.8	10.0
32 Tamworth	11.9	11.7	-2.3
33 Bundaberg	10.3	10.3	0.2
34 Busselton	8.8	9.2	5.3
35 Geraldton	8.9	9.2	3.4
36 Thursday Island	8.8	8.4	-5.1
37 Olympic Dam	7.9	8.0	1.4
38 Weipa	7.5	7.9	5.8
39 Orange	7.5	7.6	0.6
40 Armidale	7.3	7.1	-3.5
41 Kununurra	7.7	6.8	-11.7
42 Moranbah	8.9	6.6	-25.4
43 Norfolk Island	5.9	6.6	12.2
44 Burnie	6.7	6.4	-4.1
45 Merimbula	5.8	6.2	7.0
46 Gove	5.6	5.7	2.6
47 Griffith	5.5	5.1	-6.8
48 Learmonth	6.7	5.0	-24.4
49 Albany	4.9	4.9	0.2
50 Esperance	4.5	4.7	4.4
Total top 50 regional airports	1 986.7	1 972.1	-0.7
Total regional airports	2 094.1	2 073.2	-1.0
Total domestic network	10 190.4	10 107.6	-0.8

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.

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

Airport	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
1 Cairns	4 126.2	4 155.3	0.7
2 Hobart	2 755.5	2 872.7	4.3
3 Townsville	1 674.5	1 659.3	-0.9
4 Darwin	1 608.3	1 656.9	3.0
5 Launceston	1 433.6	1 466.2	2.3
6 Newcastle	1 201.1	1 223.5	1.9
7 Mackay	905.4	934.0	3.2
8 Karratha	623.4	709.3	13.8
9 Rockhampton	658.0	640.0	-2.7
10 Ballina	632.8	576.6	-8.9
11 Proserpine	513.6	549.7	7.0
12 Port Hedland	487.9	502.0	2.9
13 Hamilton Island	493.1	492.3	-0.2
14 Broome	439.6	455.6	3.6
15 Newman	404.2	444.0	9.9
16 Kalgoorlie	367.6	403.6	9.8
17 Alice Springs	369.7	365.0	-1.3
18 Ayers Rock	323.3	351.1	8.6
19 Paraburdoo	252.6	263.1	4.2
20 Coffs Harbour	277.5	244.7	-11.8
21 Mount Isa	240.6	233.7	-2.9
22 Albury	246.1	224.8	-8.7
23 Gladstone	209.2	222.4	6.3
24 Wagga Wagga	188.9	220.0	16.5
25 Hervey Bay	233.4	217.1	-7.0
26 Dubbo	208.2	209.1	0.5
27 Emerald	199.8	199.6	-0.1
28 Port Macquarie	203.5	194.2	-4.6
29 Mildura	205.5	188.0	-8.5
30 Port Lincoln	169.5	167.8	-1.0
31 Tamworth	164.1	158.9	-3.2
32 Bundaberg	126.3	150.1	18.8
33 Kununurra	150.8	139.8	-7.2
34 Devonport	139.2	138.6	-0.5
35 Geraldton	120.2	129.7	7.9
36 Thursday Island	111.8	122.1	9.2
37 Orange	118.6	116.5	-1.8
38 Learmonth	108.0	108.9	0.8
39 Moranbah	106.1	103.9	-2.1
40 Armidale	101.9	103.4	1.4
41 Olympic Dam	93.1	100.3	7.7
42 Weipa	89.8	98.4	9.5
43 Busselton	112.2	98.2	-12.5
44 Gove	92.9	85.4	-8.1
45 Burnie	78.8	82.4	4.4
46 Griffith	70.3	76.9	9.5
47 Mount Gambier	71.7	72.8	1.6
48 Norfolk Island	68.5	72.6	5.9
49 Merimbula	70.4	70.5	0.1
50 Albany	67.5	66.1	3.6
Total top 50 regional airports	23 714.7	24 136.9	1.8
Total regional airports	25 155.7	25 565.4	1.6
Total domestic network	119 175.8	120 798.5	1.4

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)

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	355.0	351.3	-1.0
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	6.3	6.3	0.3

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

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

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	4 318.5	4 344.0	0.6
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	73.7	74.1	0.5

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

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

	Jan 2025	Jan 2026	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	709.9	702.6	-1.0
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	12.7	12.7	0.3
Perth airport charter passenger movements	249.9	251.1	0.5
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	3.8	3.8	1.6

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

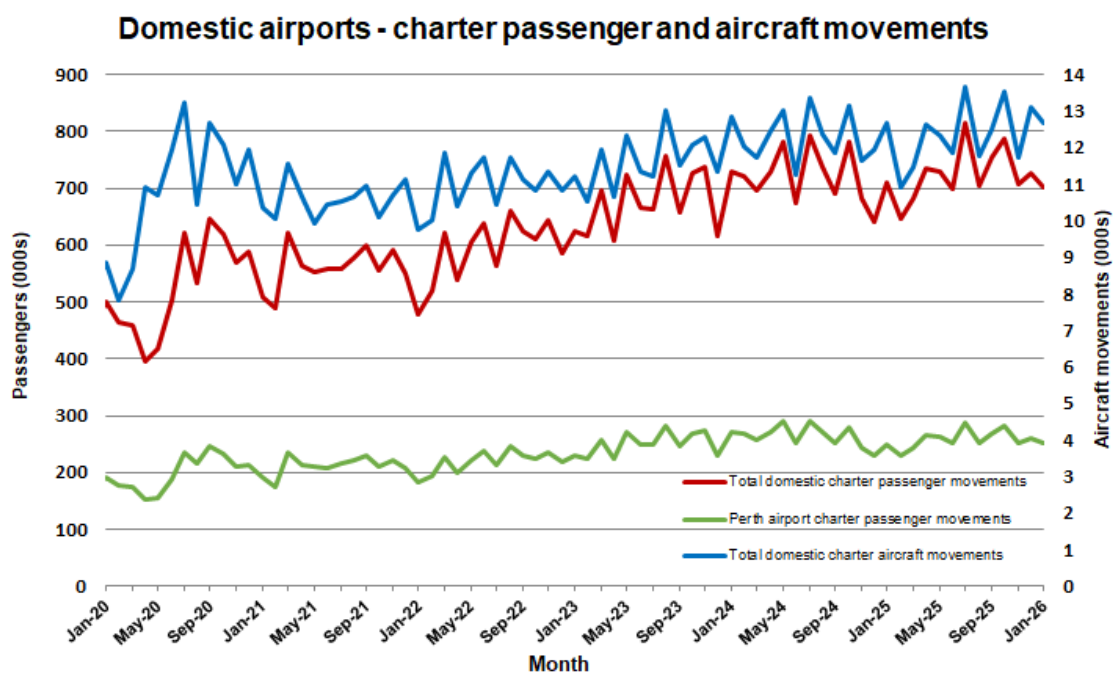
Charter passenger and aircraft movement numbers are the sum of arrivals and departures at each airport.

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

	YE Jan 2025	YE Jan 2026	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	8 637.0	8 688.1	0.6
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	147.5	148.2	0.5
Perth airport charter passenger movements	3 157.6	3 108.9	-1.5
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	47.0	45.1	-4.2

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.