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September 2020

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FOREWORD

This report provides an overview of domestic (including charter) commercial aviation activity in Australia for the month of September 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 September 2020, there were 22 such routes compared to 64 routes published in September 2019.

Information on the total network for the month of September 2020 and on the Regular Public Transport (RPT) network for the month of September 2020 is presented on page 2, with estimates for the year ended September 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 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

Travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak have resulted in severe disruptions to domestic air travel since April 2020.

There were 1.0 million passengers carried on Australian domestic commercial aviation (including charter operations) in September 2020, a decrease of 81.1 per cent on September 2019. For the month of September 2020, there were 22.4 thousand aircraft trips, a decrease of 60.9 per cent compared to September 2019.

699.7 thousand passengers were carried on RPT flights in September 2020, a decrease of 86.5 per cent on September 2019.

For the year ending September 2020 there were 31.4 million RPT passengers, a decrease of 48.6 per cent on the year ending September 2019.

RPT revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) performed were 796.5 million for the month, down 86.9 per cent compared with September 2019. Capacity, measured by available seat kilometres (ASKs), decreased by 80.9 per cent compared with September 2019 to a total of 1.42 billion.

The industry wide load factor (RPKs/ASKs) decreased from 81.8 per cent in September 2019 to 56.1 per cent in September 2020. Load factors decreased on 21 individual RPT routes of the 22 RPT routes for which data is available for publishing in both years. The Ballina – Sydney route was the only route to show an increased load factor in September 2020 (up 0.9 percentage points).

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

For the month of September 2020, Brisbane – Cairns was Australia's busiest RPT route with 75.0 thousand passengers, a decrease of 31.8 per cent compared with September 2019. It was followed by Brisbane – Townsville with 44.3 thousand passengers (down 51.4 per cent) and Ballina – Sydney with 35.3 thousand passengers (down 1.5 per cent).

The Broome – Perth route (up 4.2 per cent) was the only route to record an increase in the number of passengers compared to September 2019.

Brisbane was Australia's busiest domestic airport with 311.6 thousand passenger movements in September 2020 (down 79.5 per cent), followed by Perth with 153.7 thousand passenger movements (down 77.8 per cent) and Cairns with 124.8 thousand passenger movements (down 65.4 per cent).

Total cargo movements at Australian airports on domestic RPT flights were 32.4 thousand tonnes in September 2020, a decrease of 11.1 per cent compared with September 2019.

In September 2020, there were 675.9 thousand domestic passenger movements through regional airports, 68.6 per cent less than in September 2019. Most published regional airports recorded significant decreases compared with September 2019.

Fixed-wing charter operators carried 322.9 thousand passengers in September 2020, an increase of 42.8 per cent on September 2019. This was the highest number of passengers recorded since BITRE's charter survey commenced in July 2011. The largest increases were on major mining routes which also have RPT services. Perth Airport accounted for 37.9 per cent of all charter passengers in Australia.

TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of monthly commercial aviation activity

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	5.42	1.02	-81.1
Aircraft trips (000s)	57.3	22.4	-60.9

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

RPT NETWORK

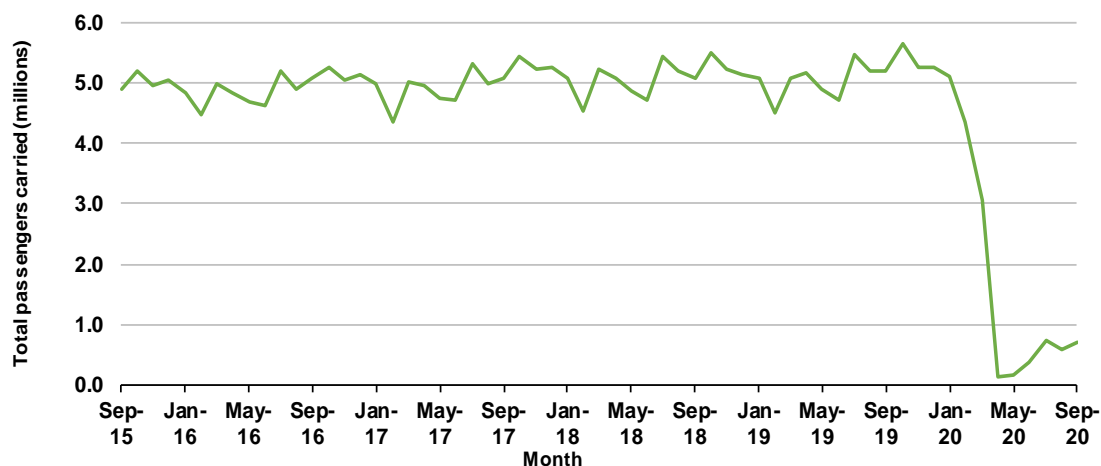
Summary of monthly RPT activity

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	5.19	0.70	-86.5
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	6.09	0.80	-86.9
Available seats (millions)	6.50	1.25	-80.8
Available seat kilometres (billions)	7.44	1.42	-80.9 *
Load factor %	81.8	56.1	-25.7
Aircraft trips (000s)	53.4	16.0	-70.0

* percentage point difference

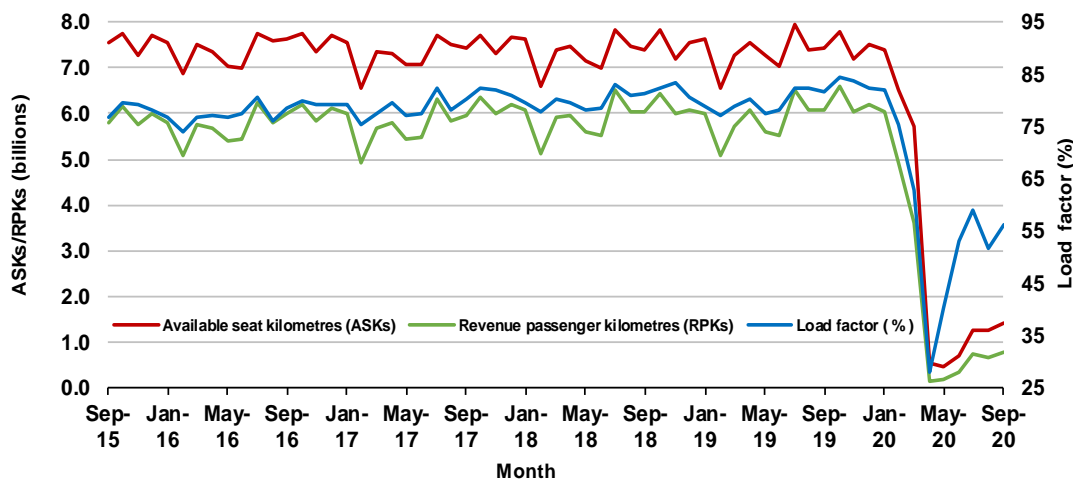
Domestic RPT passenger traffic

(monthly)



RPT Network utilisation

(monthly)



TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of annual commercial aviation activity

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	63.74	34.40	-46.0
Aircraft trips (000s)	681.8	434.4	-36.3

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

RPT NETWORK

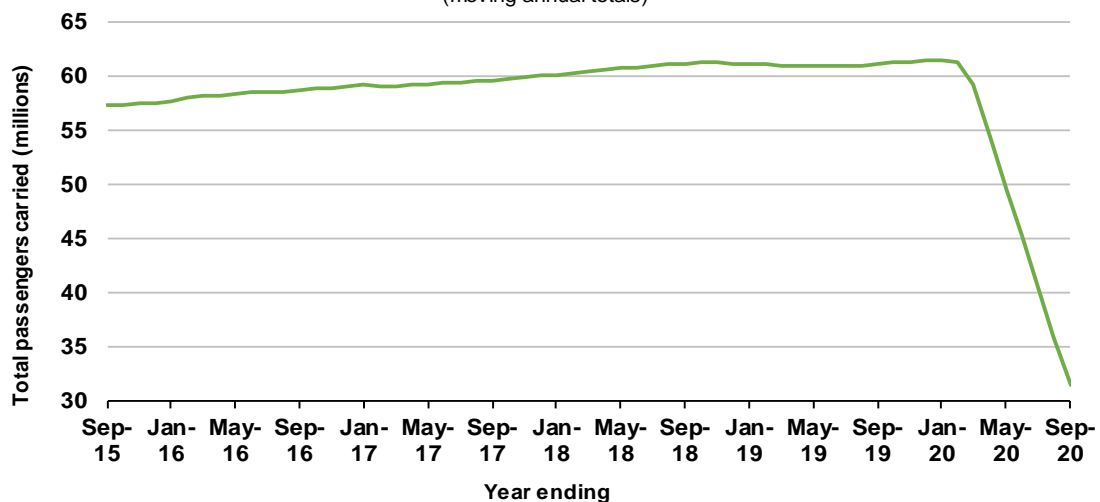
Summary of annual RPT activity

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	61.11	31.41	-48.6
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	71.21	36.29	-49.0
Available seats (millions)	77.70	42.17	-45.7
Available seat kilometres (billions)	88.60	47.80	-46.1
Load factor %	80.4	75.9	-4.4 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	636.5	374.2	-41.2

* percentage point difference

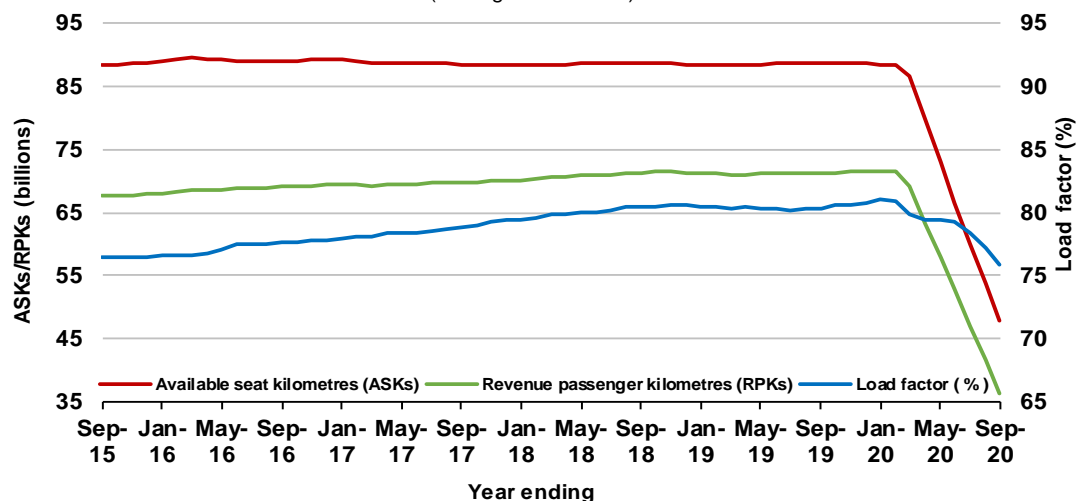
Domestic RPT passenger traffic

(moving annual totals)



RPT Network utilisation

(moving annual totals)



TOP COMPETITIVE ROUTES

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

	City-Pair	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	9 175.0	4 378.1	-52.3
2	Brisbane - Sydney	4 812.0	2 411.3	-49.9
3	Brisbane - Melbourne	3 604.8	1 736.9	-51.8
4	Adelaide - Melbourne	2 526.9	1 208.5	-52.2
5	Melbourne - Perth	2 105.5	1 069.9	-49.2
6	Adelaide - Sydney	1 876.4	919.3	-51.0
7	Perth - Sydney	1 685.1	866.4	-48.6
8	Brisbane - Cairns	1 284.8	823.7	-35.9
9	Brisbane - Townsville	1 005.5	614.7	-38.9
10	Adelaide - Brisbane	862.5	495.5	-42.5
11	Brisbane - Perth	948.6	494.4	-47.9
12	Brisbane - Mackay	760.3	482.7	-36.5
13	Brisbane - Canberra	654.1	330.6	-49.5
14	Brisbane - Rockhampton	531.2	315.5	-40.6
15	Ballina - Sydney	432.5	314.5	-27.3
16	Karratha - Perth	454.4	302.6	-33.4
17	Perth - Port Hedland	372.6	241.7	-35.1
18	Broome - Perth	331.6	216.7	-34.6
19	Newman - Perth	334.4	200.3	-40.1
20	Brisbane - Darwin	357.3	181.9	-49.1
21	Kalgoorlie - Perth	281.2	174.5	-37.9
22	Brisbane - Proserpine	251.8	173.7	-31.0
23	Gold Coast - Sydney	2 699.6	..	NA
24	Gold Coast - Melbourne	2 097.9	..	NA
25	Hobart - Melbourne	1 670.5	..	NA
26	Canberra - Melbourne	1 182.2	..	NA
27	Cairns - Melbourne	860.6	..	NA
28	Cairns - Sydney	1 088.4	..	NA
29	Canberra - Sydney	922.9	..	NA
30	Launceston - Melbourne	957.3	..	NA
31	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	659.7	..	NA
32	Hobart - Sydney	719.0	..	NA
33	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	550.2	..	NA
34	Adelaide - Perth	645.8	..	NA
35	Brisbane - Newcastle	596.5	..	NA
36	Melbourne - Newcastle	483.6	..	NA
37	Darwin - Sydney	311.2	..	NA
38	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	329.6	..	NA
39	Darwin - Melbourne	309.2	..	NA
40	Brisbane - Gladstone	246.6	..	NA
41	Launceston - Sydney	291.3	..	NA
42	Hamilton Island - Sydney	206.2	..	NA
43	Melbourne - Mildura	229.6	..	NA
44	Albury - Sydney	229.1	..	NA
45	Brisbane - Hobart	240.6	..	NA
46	Ayers Rock - Sydney	197.1	..	NA
47	Adelaide - Gold Coast	213.9	..	NA
48	Brisbane - Emerald	198.0	..	NA
49	Adelaide - Canberra	193.4	..	NA
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	179.1	..	NA

continued

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

	City-Pair	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
51	Sydney - Townsville	174.3	..	NA
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	189.3	..	NA
53	Dubbo - Sydney	182.1	..	NA
54	Sydney - Tamworth	172.2	..	NA
55	Darwin - Perth	176.3	..	NA
56	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	169.1	..	NA
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	154.7	..	NA
58	Adelaide - Alice Springs	144.8	..	NA
59	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	129.3	..	NA
60	Cairns - Townsville	143.1	..	NA
61	Brisbane - Mount Isa	136.1	..	NA
62	Armidale - Sydney	123.0	..	NA
	Total domestic network	61 112.1	31 410.2	-48.6

.. Data not available for release.

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

	City-Pair	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
1	Brisbane - Cairns	110.0	75.0	-31.8
2	Brisbane - Townsville	91.3	44.3	-51.4
3	Ballina - Sydney	35.9	35.3	-1.5
4	Broome - Perth	31.5	32.9	4.2
5	Karratha - Perth	41.7	30.3	-27.2
6	Brisbane - Mackay	69.7	30.3	-56.6
7	Adelaide - Brisbane	75.7	29.0	-61.7
8	Brisbane - Rockhampton	47.3	19.5	-58.8
9	Brisbane - Proserpine	23.7	16.8	-28.9
10	Brisbane - Darwin	32.5	15.8	-51.4
11	Perth - Port Hedland	32.4	15.3	-52.9
12	Kalgoorlie - Perth	23.2	14.5	-37.3
13	Brisbane - Sydney	401.7	10.9	-97.3
14	Newman - Perth	29.1	10.8	-62.9
15	Adelaide - Sydney	152.9	10.3	-93.3
16	Melbourne - Sydney	747.7	10.2	-98.6
17	Brisbane - Perth	82.9	5.7	-93.1
18	Brisbane - Melbourne	312.1	4.4	-98.6
19	Brisbane - Canberra	60.7	4.3	-92.9
20	Perth - Sydney	135.8	4.2	-96.9
21	Melbourne - Perth	170.2	2.4	-98.6
22	Adelaide - Melbourne	210.9	1.4	-99.4
23	Gold Coast - Sydney	227.5	..	NA
24	Gold Coast - Melbourne	186.8	..	NA
25	Hobart - Melbourne	126.3	..	NA
26	Canberra - Melbourne	101.6	..	NA
27	Cairns - Melbourne	84.6	..	NA
28	Cairns - Sydney	84.4	..	NA
29	Canberra - Sydney	83.9	..	NA
30	Launceston - Melbourne	70.1	..	NA
31	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	57.0	..	NA
32	Hobart - Sydney	56.0	..	NA
33	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	54.5	..	NA
34	Adelaide - Perth	53.3	..	NA
35	Brisbane - Newcastle	52.7	..	NA
36	Melbourne - Newcastle	39.6	..	NA
37	Darwin - Sydney	29.5	..	NA
38	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	28.0	..	NA
39	Darwin - Melbourne	27.9	..	NA
40	Brisbane - Gladstone	21.4	..	NA
41	Launceston - Sydney	20.9	..	NA
42	Hamilton Island - Sydney	20.5	..	NA
43	Melbourne - Mildura	20.2	..	NA
44	Albury - Sydney	20.2	..	NA
45	Brisbane - Hobart	19.2	..	NA
46	Ayers Rock - Sydney	18.6	..	NA
47	Adelaide - Gold Coast	18.4	..	NA
48	Brisbane - Emerald	17.6	..	NA
49	Adelaide - Canberra	17.1	..	NA
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	16.6	..	NA

continued

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

	City-Pair	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
51	Sydney - Townsville	16.4	..	NA
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	16.2	..	NA
53	Dubbo - Sydney	15.7	..	NA
54	Sydney - Tamworth	15.3	..	NA
55	Darwin - Perth	15.1	..	NA
56	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	14.5	..	NA
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	13.5	..	NA
58	Adelaide - Alice Springs	12.8	..	NA
59	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	12.4	..	NA
60	Cairns - Townsville	12.4	..	NA
61	Brisbane - Mount Isa	12.3	..	NA
62	Armidale - Sydney	11.1	..	NA
	Total domestic network	5 191.8	699.7	-86.5

.. Data not available for release.

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

	City-Pair	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
1	Brisbane - Cairns	132.3	99.2	-25.0
2	Brisbane - Townsville	111.8	62.7	-43.9
3	Ballina - Sydney	42.5	41.5	-2.5
4	Broome - Perth	37.6	42.9	14.1
5	Karratha - Perth	59.2	55.0	-7.1
6	Brisbane - Mackay	86.3	51.9	-39.9
7	Adelaide - Brisbane	94.5	40.6	-57.1
8	Brisbane - Rockhampton	55.1	35.2	-36.1
9	Brisbane - Proserpine	27.2	22.9	-15.8
10	Brisbane - Darwin	40.0	21.5	-46.2
11	Perth - Port Hedland	50.2	28.3	-43.7
12	Kalgoorlie - Perth	41.5	27.5	-33.7
13	Brisbane - Sydney	487.1	26.1	-94.6
14	Newman - Perth	48.1	21.8	-54.6
15	Adelaide - Sydney	181.0	17.5	-90.4
16	Melbourne - Sydney	885.6	28.7	-96.8
17	Brisbane - Perth	95.1	15.3	-84.0
18	Brisbane - Melbourne	360.4	8.6	-97.6
19	Brisbane - Canberra	78.7	10.4	-86.8
20	Perth - Sydney	163.2	17.7	-89.1
21	Melbourne - Perth	204.9	14.9	-92.7
22	Adelaide - Melbourne	260.4	12.3	-95.3
23	Gold Coast - Sydney	264.0	..	NA
24	Gold Coast - Melbourne	200.7	..	NA
25	Hobart - Melbourne	159.6	..	NA
26	Canberra - Melbourne	149.0	..	NA
27	Cairns - Melbourne	96.7	..	NA
28	Cairns - Sydney	103.7	..	NA
29	Canberra - Sydney	109.0	..	NA
30	Launceston - Melbourne	87.3	..	NA
31	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	68.1	..	NA
32	Hobart - Sydney	67.9	..	NA
33	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	58.8	..	NA
34	Adelaide - Perth	68.6	..	NA
35	Brisbane - Newcastle	68.1	..	NA
36	Melbourne - Newcastle	47.0	..	NA
37	Darwin - Sydney	36.6	..	NA
38	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	38.1	..	NA
39	Darwin - Melbourne	32.3	..	NA
40	Brisbane - Gladstone	31.3	..	NA
41	Launceston - Sydney	23.9	..	NA
42	Hamilton Island - Sydney	26.7	..	NA
43	Melbourne - Mildura	29.4	..	NA
44	Albury - Sydney	27.8	..	NA
45	Brisbane - Hobart	22.3	..	NA
46	Ayers Rock - Sydney	21.5	..	NA
47	Adelaide - Gold Coast	21.2	..	NA
48	Brisbane - Emerald	25.4	..	NA
49	Adelaide - Canberra	25.6	..	NA
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	24.5	..	NA

continued

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

	City-Pair	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
51	Sydney - Townsville	19.7	..	NA
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	22.8	..	NA
53	Dubbo - Sydney	23.5	..	NA
54	Sydney - Tamworth	21.5	..	NA
55	Darwin - Perth	20.7	..	NA
56	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	23.8	..	NA
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	18.6	..	NA
58	Adelaide - Alice Springs	16.5	..	NA
59	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	15.4	..	NA
60	Cairns - Townsville	20.3	..	NA
61	Brisbane - Mount Isa	16.1	..	NA
62	Armidale - Sydney	15.8	..	NA
	Total domestic network	6 498.3	1 246.6	-80.8

.. Data not available for release.

Table 4: Load factors (%) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Point diff
1	Brisbane - Cairns	83.1	75.6	-7.5
2	Brisbane - Townsville	81.7	70.7	-11.0
3	Ballina - Sydney	84.3	85.2	0.9
4	Broome - Perth	83.9	76.6	-7.3
5	Karratha - Perth	70.4	55.1	-15.3
6	Brisbane - Mackay	80.7	58.3	-22.4
7	Adelaide - Brisbane	80.1	71.6	-8.5
8	Brisbane - Rockhampton	85.7	55.3	-30.4
9	Brisbane - Proserpine	86.9	73.4	-13.5
10	Brisbane - Darwin	81.2	73.4	-7.8
11	Perth - Port Hedland	64.5	53.9	-10.6
12	Kalgoorlie - Perth	55.9	52.8	-3.1
13	Brisbane - Sydney	82.5	41.6	-40.9
14	Newman - Perth	60.6	49.4	-11.2
15	Adelaide - Sydney	84.5	59.1	-25.4
16	Melbourne - Sydney	84.4	35.4	-49.0
17	Brisbane - Perth	87.2	37.3	-49.9
18	Brisbane - Melbourne	86.6	50.9	-35.7
19	Brisbane - Canberra	77.0	41.8	-35.2
20	Perth - Sydney	83.2	23.8	-59.4
21	Melbourne - Perth	83.0	15.9	-67.1
22	Adelaide - Melbourne	81.0	11.1	-69.9
23	Gold Coast - Sydney	86.2	..	NA
24	Gold Coast - Melbourne	93.1	..	NA
25	Hobart - Melbourne	79.1	..	NA
26	Canberra - Melbourne	68.2	..	NA
27	Cairns - Melbourne	87.6	..	NA
28	Cairns - Sydney	81.4	..	NA
29	Canberra - Sydney	77.0	..	NA
30	Launceston - Melbourne	80.3	..	NA
31	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	83.6	..	NA
32	Hobart - Sydney	82.4	..	NA
33	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	92.6	..	NA
34	Adelaide - Perth	77.8	..	NA
35	Brisbane - Newcastle	77.3	..	NA
36	Melbourne - Newcastle	84.3	..	NA
37	Darwin - Sydney	80.5	..	NA
38	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	73.5	..	NA
39	Darwin - Melbourne	86.3	..	NA
40	Brisbane - Gladstone	68.2	..	NA
41	Launceston - Sydney	87.3	..	NA
42	Hamilton Island - Sydney	77.0	..	NA
43	Melbourne - Mildura	68.9	..	NA
44	Albury - Sydney	72.7	..	NA
45	Brisbane - Hobart	86.0	..	NA
46	Ayers Rock - Sydney	86.4	..	NA
47	Adelaide - Gold Coast	86.6	..	NA
48	Brisbane - Emerald	69.0	..	NA
49	Adelaide - Canberra	66.9	..	NA
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	67.9	..	NA

continued

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

	City-Pair	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Point diff
51	Sydney - Townsville	83.2	..	NA
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	70.8	..	NA
53	Dubbo - Sydney	67.0	..	NA
54	Sydney - Tamworth	71.1	..	NA
55	Darwin - Perth	72.6	..	NA
56	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	60.9	..	NA
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	72.4	..	NA
58	Adelaide - Alice Springs	77.5	..	NA
59	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	80.5	..	NA
60	Cairns - Townsville	60.9	..	NA
61	Brisbane - Mount Isa	76.6	..	NA
62	Armidale - Sydney	70.4	..	NA
	Total domestic network	81.8	56.1	-25.7

.. Data not available for release.

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

	City-Pair	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
1	Brisbane - Cairns	914	755	-17.4
2	Brisbane - Townsville	743	421	-43.3
3	Ballina - Sydney	278	311	11.9
4	Broome - Perth	328	278	-15.2
5	Karratha - Perth	489	347	-29.0
6	Brisbane - Mackay	669	364	-45.6
7	Adelaide - Brisbane	539	244	-54.7
8	Brisbane - Rockhampton	655	350	-46.6
9	Brisbane - Proserpine	152	138	-9.2
10	Brisbane - Darwin	245	140	-42.9
11	Perth - Port Hedland	396	193	-51.3
12	Kalgoorlie - Perth	329	187	-43.2
13	Brisbane - Sydney	2 954	362	-87.7
14	Newman - Perth	349	138	-60.5
15	Adelaide - Sydney	1 063	150	-85.9
16	Melbourne - Sydney	4 976	362	-92.7
17	Brisbane - Perth	511	88	-82.8
18	Brisbane - Melbourne	2 111	182	-91.4
19	Brisbane - Canberra	558	79	-85.8
20	Perth - Sydney	740	95	-87.2
21	Melbourne - Perth	1 012	151	-85.1
22	Adelaide - Melbourne	1 588	175	-89.0
23	Gold Coast - Sydney	1 528	..	NA
24	Gold Coast - Melbourne	1 058	..	NA
25	Hobart - Melbourne	877	..	NA
26	Canberra - Melbourne	949	..	NA
27	Cairns - Melbourne	481	..	NA
28	Cairns - Sydney	527	..	NA
29	Canberra - Sydney	1 431	..	NA
30	Launceston - Melbourne	682	..	NA
31	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	421	..	NA
32	Hobart - Sydney	434	..	NA
33	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	327	..	NA
34	Adelaide - Perth	455	..	NA
35	Brisbane - Newcastle	491	..	NA
36	Melbourne - Newcastle	258	..	NA
37	Darwin - Sydney	208	..	NA
38	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	416	..	NA
39	Darwin - Melbourne	175	..	NA
40	Brisbane - Gladstone	417	..	NA
41	Launceston - Sydney	134	..	NA
42	Hamilton Island - Sydney	161	..	NA
43	Melbourne - Mildura	407	..	NA
44	Albury - Sydney	521	..	NA
45	Brisbane - Hobart	126	..	NA
46	Ayers Rock - Sydney	120	..	NA
47	Adelaide - Gold Coast	118	..	NA
48	Brisbane - Emerald	373	..	NA
49	Adelaide - Canberra	153	..	NA
50	Sydney - Wagga Wagga	490	..	NA

continued

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

	City-Pair	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
51	Sydney - Townsville	112	..	NA
52	Port Macquarie - Sydney	356	..	NA
53	Dubbo - Sydney	503	..	NA
54	Sydney - Tamworth	339	..	NA
55	Darwin - Perth	120	..	NA
56	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	620	..	NA
57	Brisbane - Bundaberg	300	..	NA
58	Adelaide - Alice Springs	118	..	NA
59	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	124	..	NA
60	Cairns - Townsville	319	..	NA
61	Brisbane - Mount Isa	152	..	NA
62	Armidale - Sydney	376	..	NA
	Total domestic network	53 416	16 049	-70.0

(a) Includes RPT Cargo flights.

.. Data not available for release.

TOP TEN AIRPORTS – PASSENGER MOVEMENTS

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

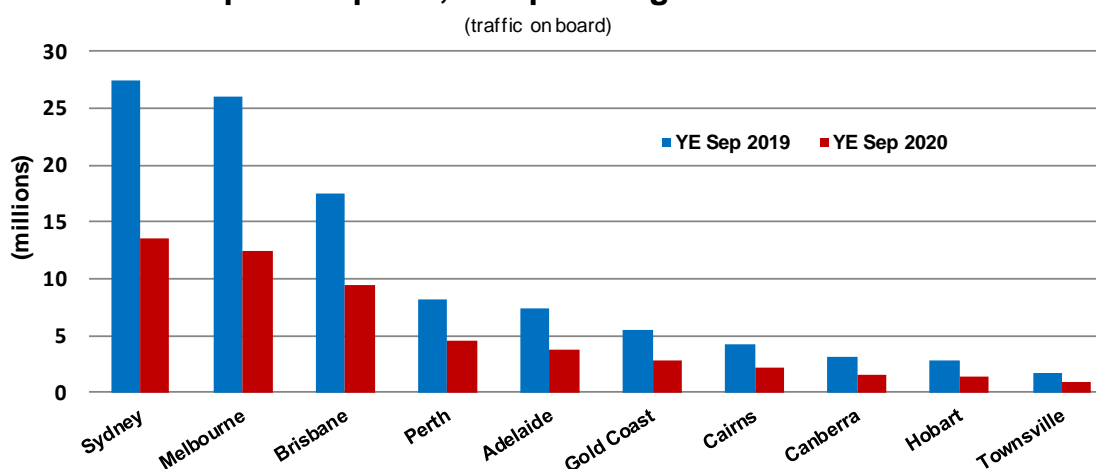
Airport	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change	% of Total
1 Brisbane	1 517.9	311.6	-79.5	22.3
2 Perth	691.1	153.7	-77.8	11.0
3 Cairns	360.4	124.8	-65.4	8.9
4 Adelaide	616.3	99.5	-83.9	7.1
5 Sydney	2 286.7	97.1	-95.8	6.9
6 Townsville	150.7	61.8	-59.0	4.4
7 Darwin	155.9	50.0	-68.0	3.6
8 Ballina	43.5	36.1	-17.0	2.6
9 Mackay	78.8	35.4	-55.1	2.5
10 Broome	39.7	34.0	-14.4	2.4
Total top ten airports	5 941.0	1 003.9	-83.1	71.7
Total domestic network	10 383.6	1 399.4	-86.5	100.0

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

Airport	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change	% of Total
1 Sydney	27 484.7	13 592.8	-50.5	21.6
2 Melbourne	25 927.1	12 469.2	-51.9	19.8
3 Brisbane	17 463.0	9 407.4	-46.1	15.0
4 Perth	8 235.2	4 490.2	-45.5	7.1
5 Adelaide	7 344.4	3 756.3	-48.9	6.0
6 Gold Coast	5 509.2	2 768.2	-49.8	4.4
7 Cairns	4 181.9	2 211.1	-47.1	3.5
8 Canberra	3 134.6	1 507.0	-51.9	2.4
9 Hobart	2 761.7	1 454.2	-47.3	2.3
10 Townsville	1 650.9	963.5	-41.6	1.5
Total top ten airports	103 692.6	52 620.0	-49.3	83.8
Total domestic network	122 224.2	62 820.4	-48.6	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

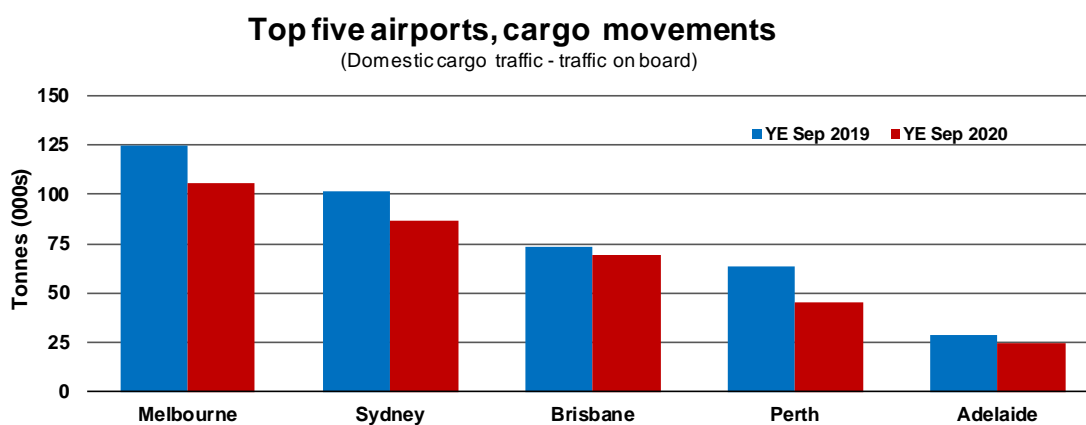
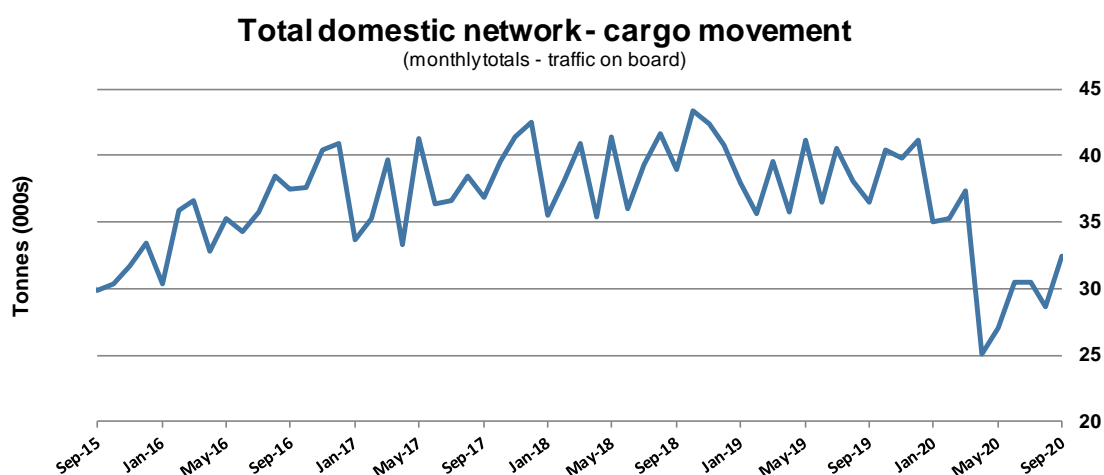
Table 8: Top five airports, domestic RPT cargo movements (000s tonnes) - monthly activity

Airport	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change	% of Total
1 Melbourne	9.7	8.1	-16.4	25.0
2 Sydney	7.9	7.2	-8.7	22.3
3 Brisbane	5.8	5.9	1.1	18.2
4 Perth	4.7	2.6	-44.1	8.0
5 Adelaide	2.2	1.9	-14.0	6.0
Total top five airports	30.3	25.7	-15.1	79.4
Total domestic network	36.4	32.4	-11.1	100.0

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

Airport	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change	% of Total
1 Melbourne	124.3	105.4	-15.2	26.2
2 Sydney	101.7	86.6	-14.8	21.5
3 Brisbane	73.4	69.2	-5.7	17.2
4 Perth	63.6	44.8	-29.4	11.1
5 Adelaide	28.7	24.8	-13.5	6.2
Total top five airports	391.7	330.8	-15.5	82.1
Total domestic network	468.0	402.8	-13.9	100.0

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



TOP TEN ROUTES

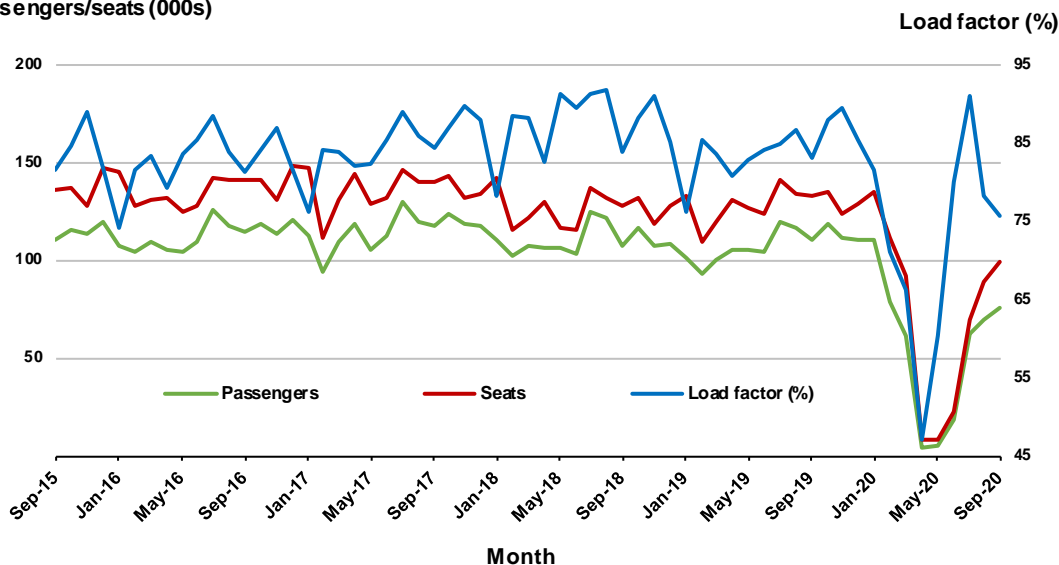
1. Brisbane - Cairns

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	110.0	75.0	-31.8
Seats (000s)	132.3	99.2	-25.0
Load factor %	83.1	75.6	-7.5 *
Aircraft trips	914	755	-17.4

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

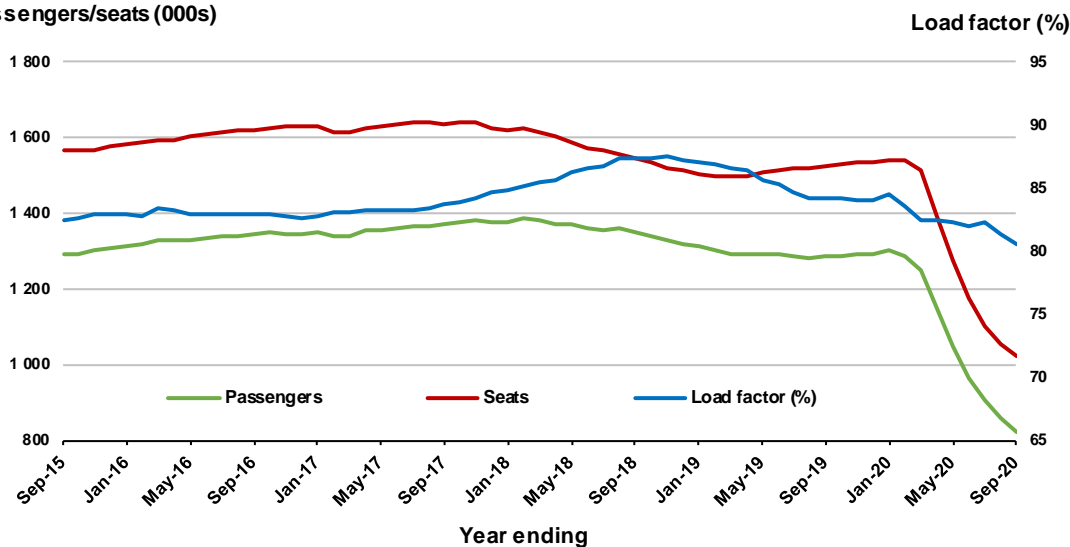


Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 284.8	823.7	-35.9
Seats (000s)	1 526.1	1 022.8	-33.0
Load factor %	84.2	80.5	-3.7 *
Aircraft trips	10 441	7 381	-29.3

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

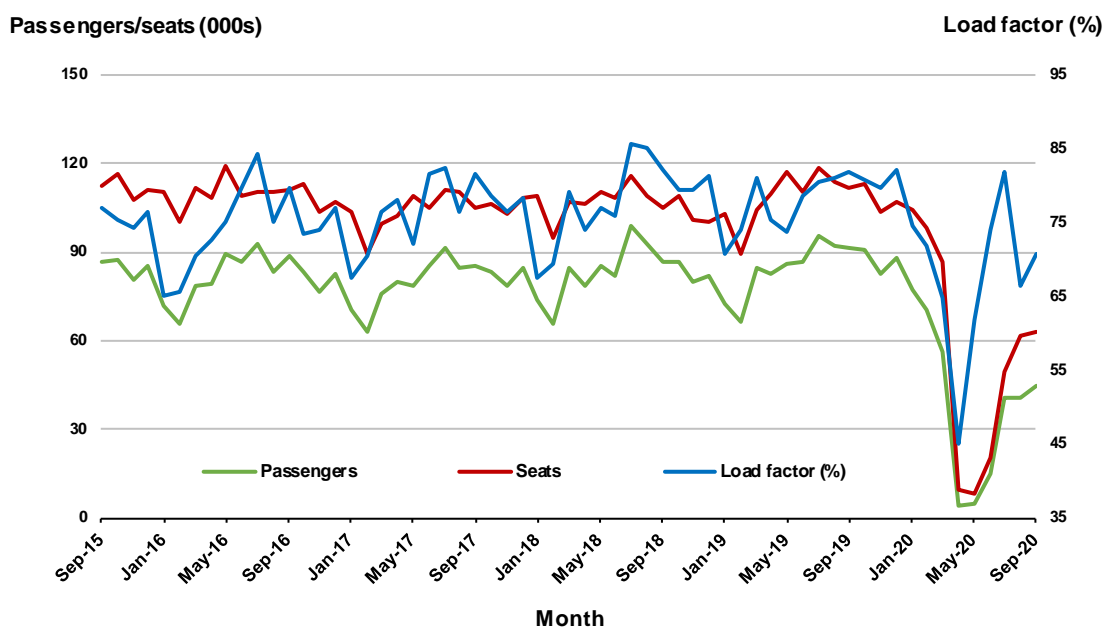


2. Brisbane - Townsville

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	91.3	44.3	-51.4
Seats (000s)	111.8	62.7	-43.9
Load factor %	81.7	70.7	-11.0 *
Aircraft trips	743	421	-43.3

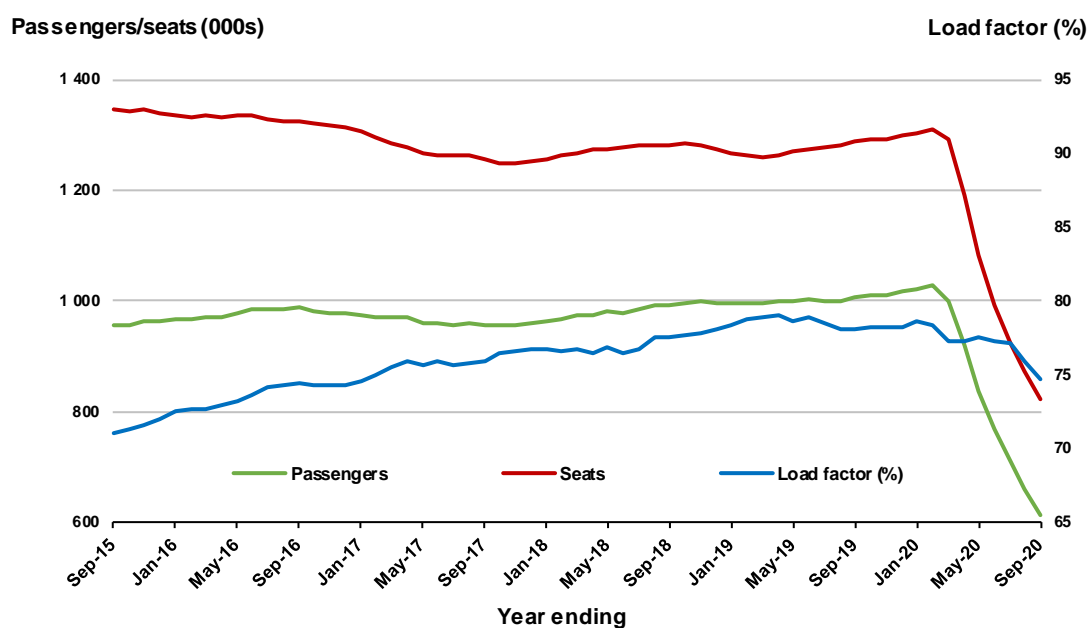
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 005.5	614.7	-38.9
Seats (000s)	1 287.6	822.7	-36.1
Load factor %	78.1	74.7	-3.4 *
Aircraft trips	8 682	5 599	-35.5

* percentage point difference

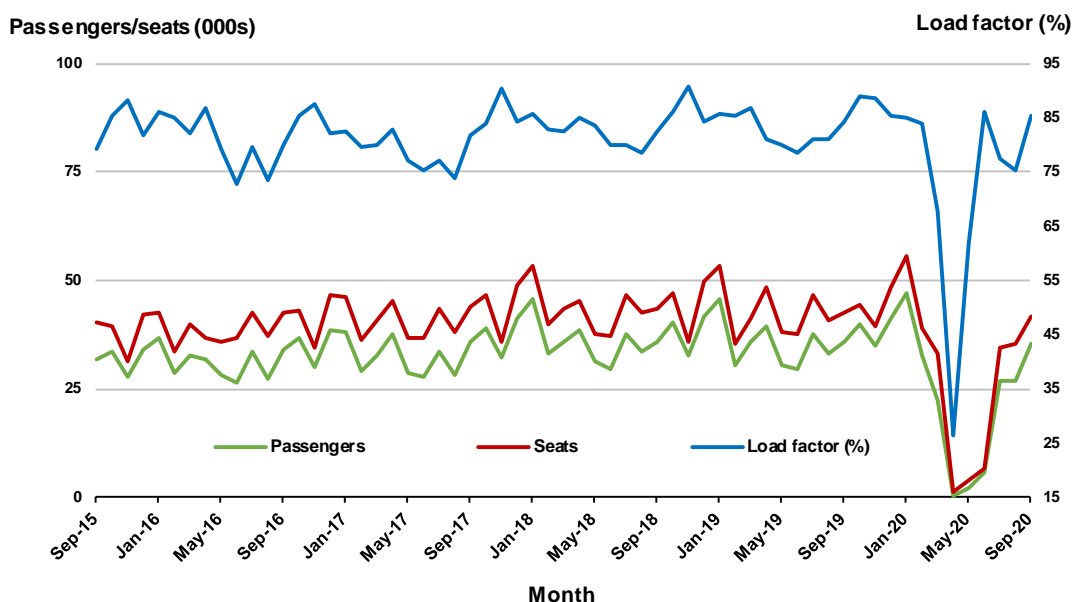


3. Ballina - Sydney

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	35.9	35.3	-1.5
Seats (000s)	42.5	41.5	-2.5
Load factor %	84.3	85.2	0.9 *
Aircraft trips	278	311	11.9

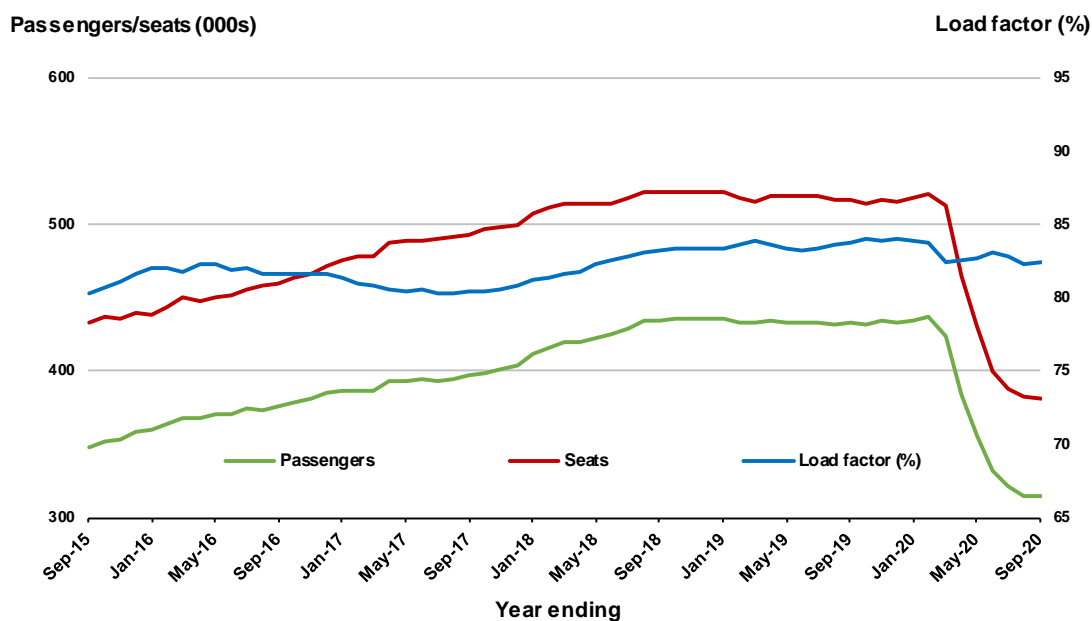
* percentage point difference



Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	432.5	314.5	-27.3
Seats (000s)	516.6	381.5	-26.1
Load factor %	83.7	82.4	-1.3 *
Aircraft trips	3 304	2 555	-22.7

* percentage point difference



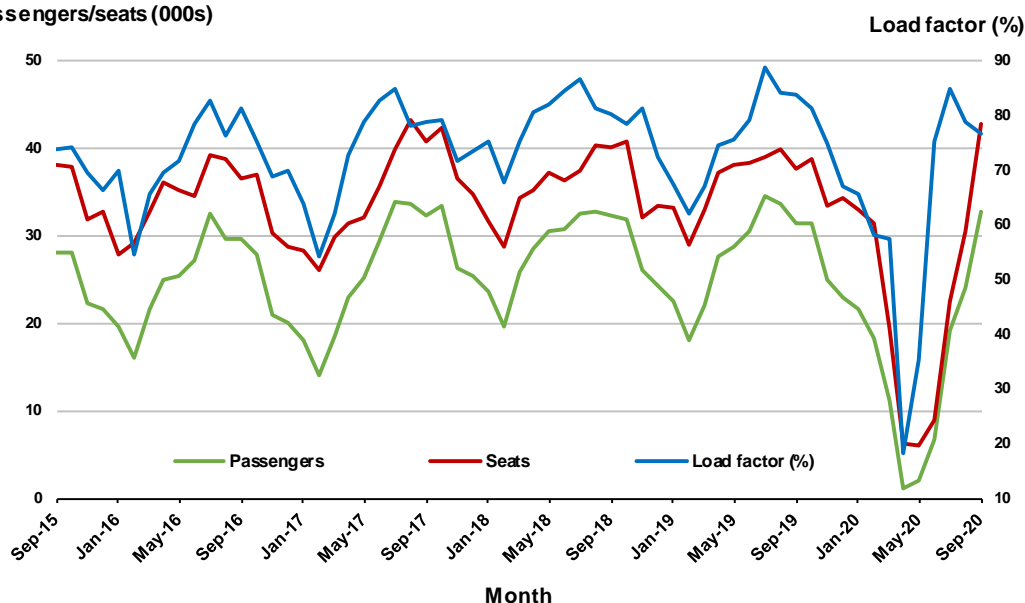
4. Broome - Perth

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	31.5	32.9	4.2
Seats (000s)	37.6	42.9	14.1
Load factor %	83.9	76.6	-7.3 *
Aircraft trips	328	278	-15.2

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

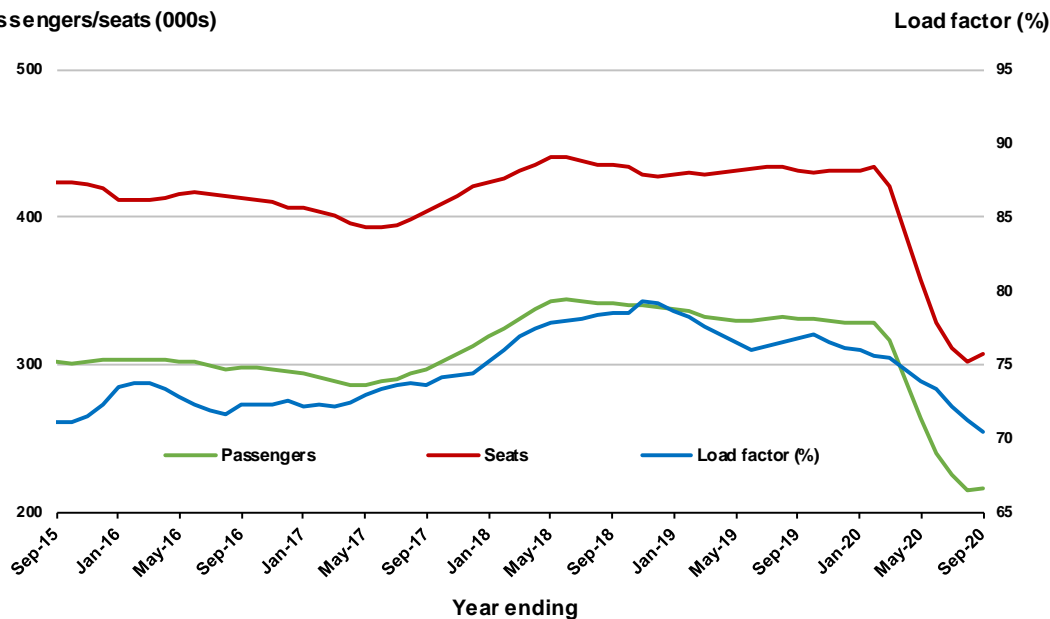


Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	331.6	216.7	-34.6
Seats (000s)	431.8	307.4	-28.8
Load factor %	76.8	70.5	-6.3 *
Aircraft trips	3 722	2 417	-35.1

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



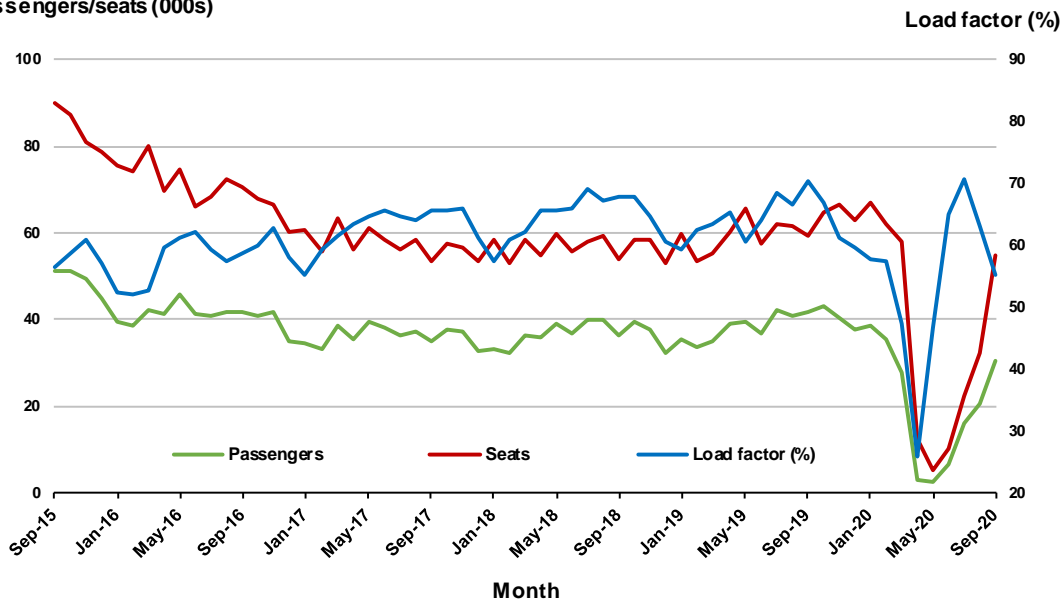
5. Karratha - Perth

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	41.7	30.3	-27.2
Seats (000s)	59.2	55.0	-7.1
Load factor %	70.4	55.1	-15.3 *
Aircraft trips	489	347	-29.0

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

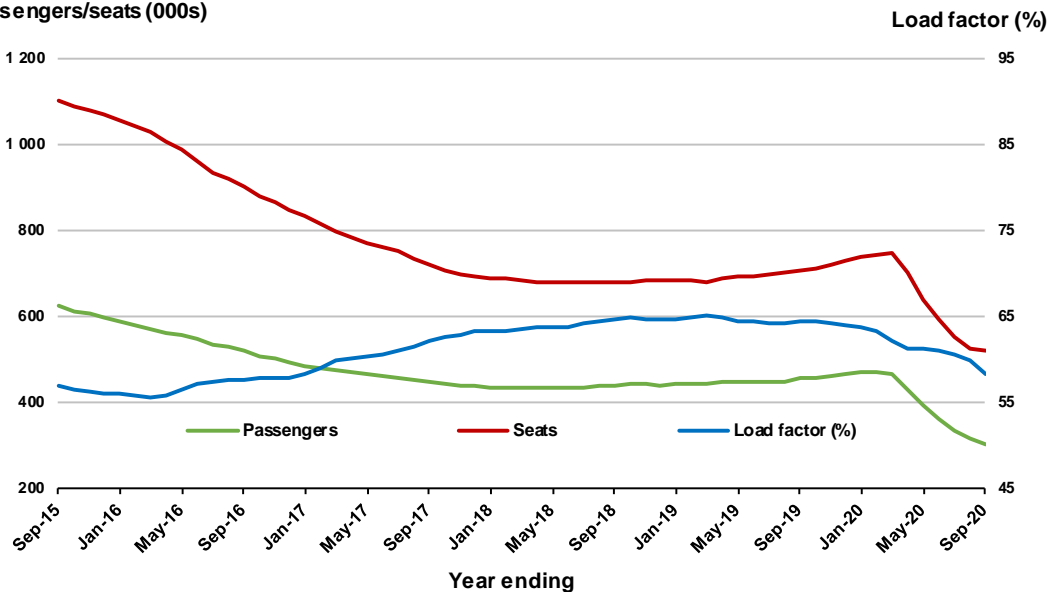


Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	454.4	302.6	-33.4
Seats (000s)	704.8	519.6	-26.3
Load factor %	64.5	58.2	-6.2 *
Aircraft trips	5 963	3 778	-36.6

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



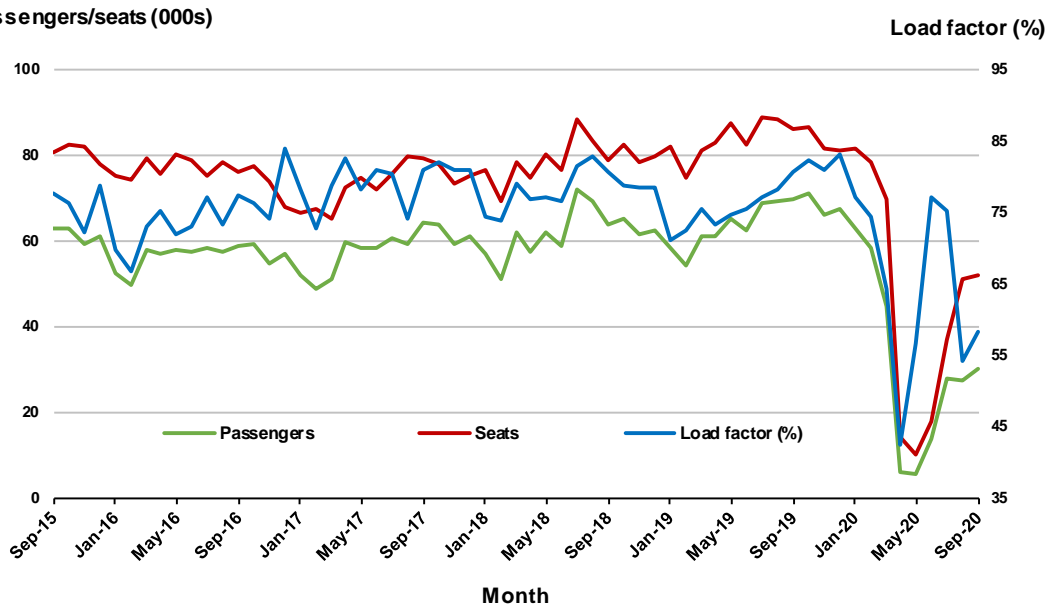
6. Brisbane - Mackay

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	69.7	30.3	-56.6
Seats (000s)	86.3	51.9	-39.9
Load factor %	80.7	58.3	-22.4 *
Aircraft trips	669	364	-45.6

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

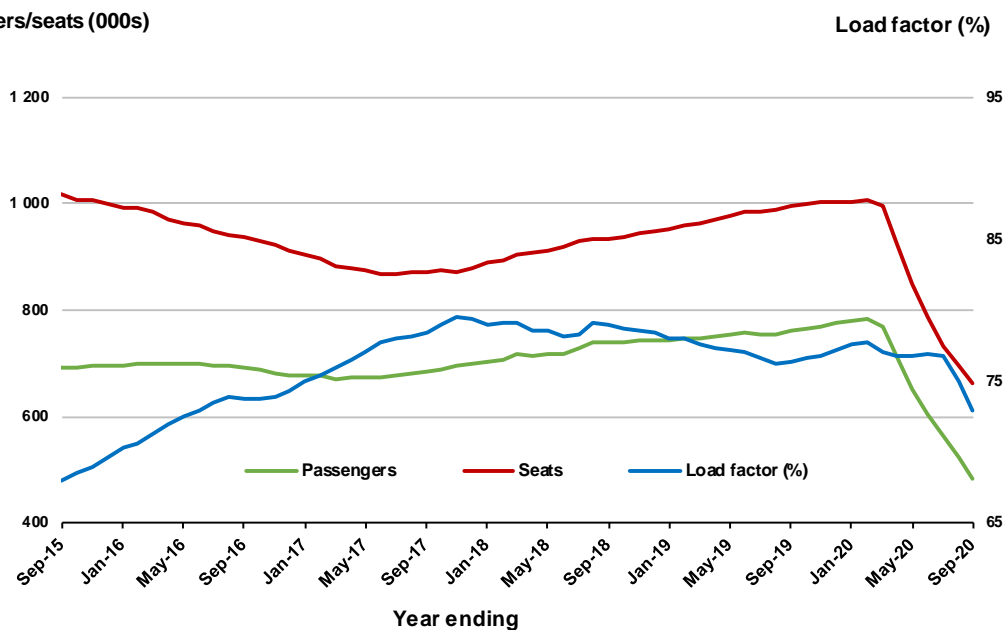


Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	760.3	482.7	-36.5
Seats (000s)	996.5	662.1	-33.6
Load factor %	76.3	72.9	-3.4 *
Aircraft trips	7 638	5 254	-31.2

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



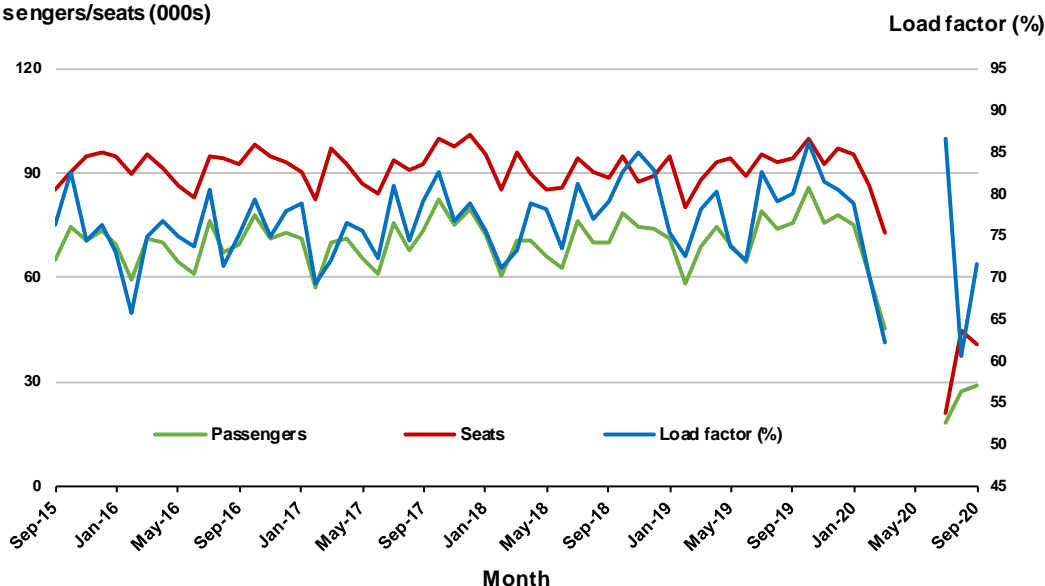
7. Adelaide - Brisbane ^(a)

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	75.7	29.0	-61.7
Seats (000s)	94.5	40.6	-57.1
Load factor %	80.1	71.6	-8.5 *
Aircraft trips	539	244	-54.7

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



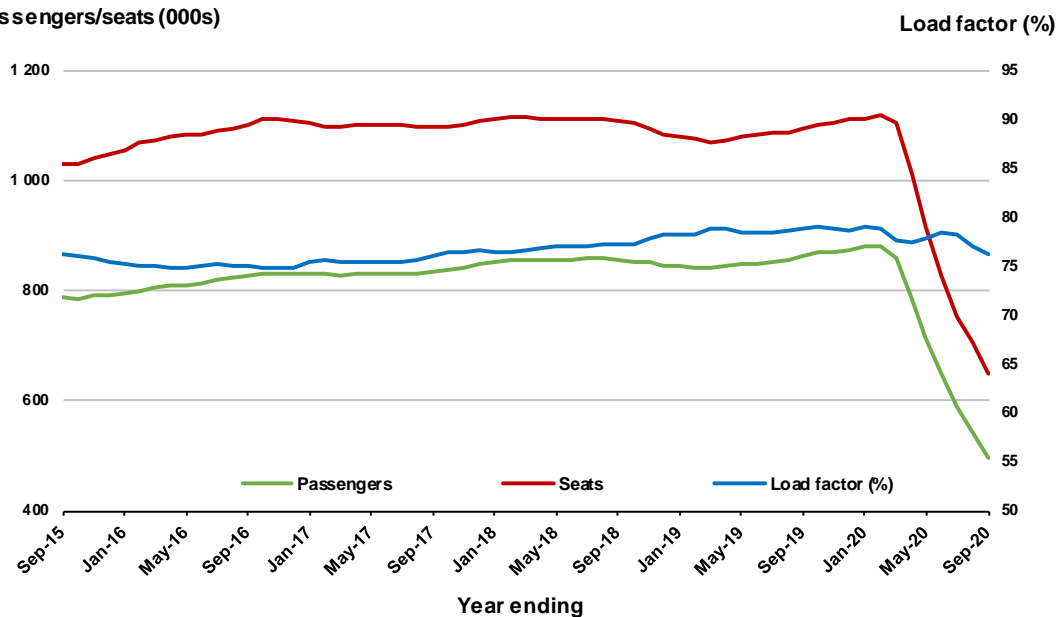
(a) April, May and June 2020 data not available for release.

Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	862.5	495.5	-42.5
Seats (000s)	1 094.8	650.6	-40.6
Load factor %	78.8	76.2	-2.6 *
Aircraft trips	6 524	3 788	-41.9

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



8. Brisbane - Rockhampton

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	47.3	19.5	-58.8
Seats (000s)	55.1	35.2	-36.1
Load factor %	85.7	55.3	-30.4 *
Aircraft trips	655	350	-46.6

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

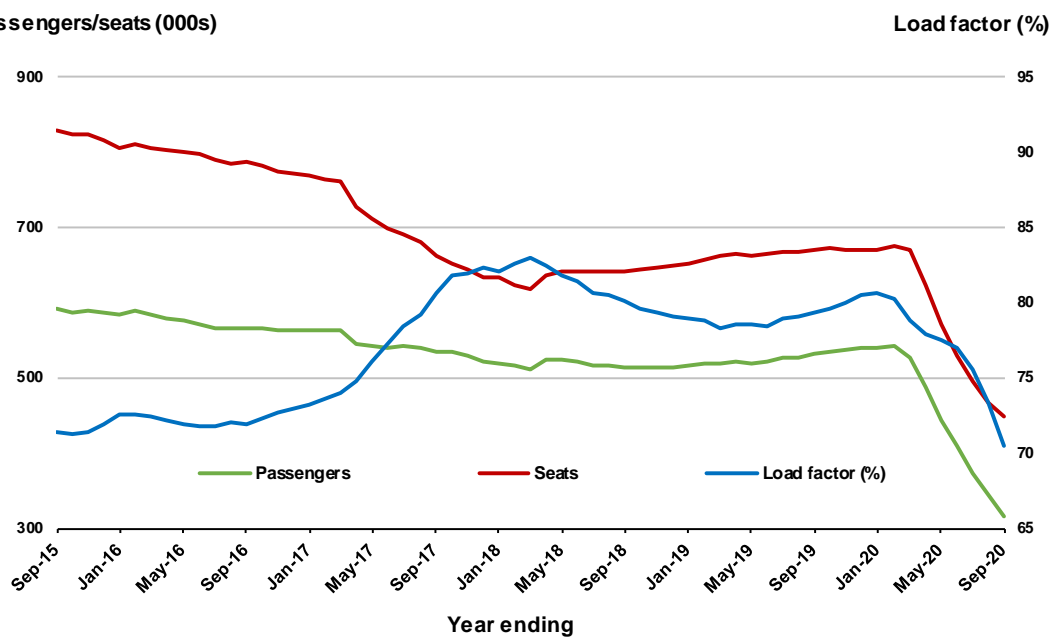


Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	531.2	315.5	-40.6
Seats (000s)	669.6	447.8	-33.1
Load factor %	79.3	70.5	-8.9 *
Aircraft trips	8 053	5 105	-36.6

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



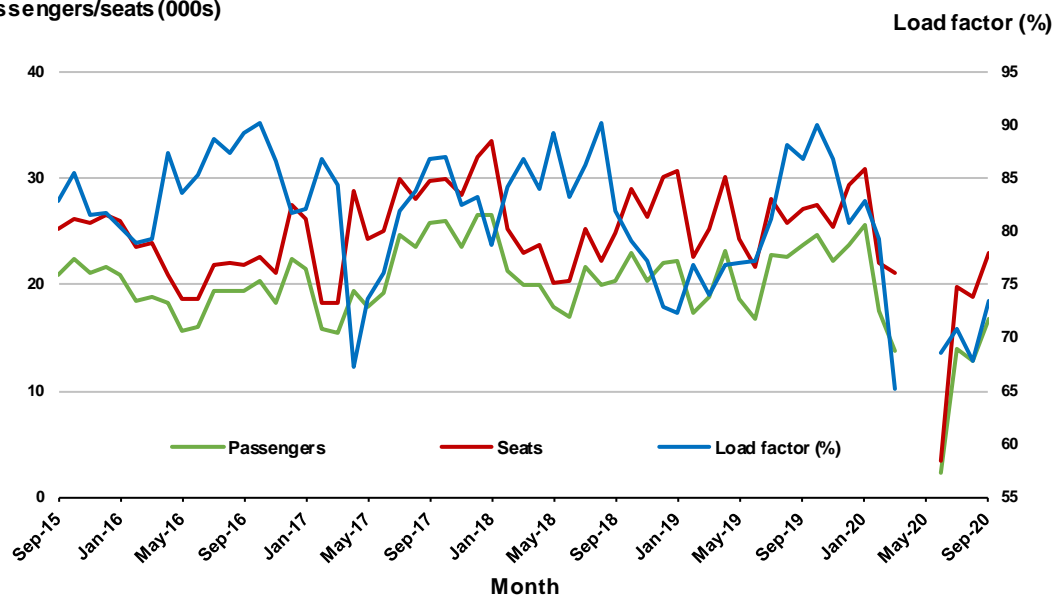
9. Brisbane - Proserpine ^(a)

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	23.7	16.8	-28.9
Seats (000s)	27.2	22.9	-15.8
Load factor %	86.9	73.4	-13.5 *
Aircraft trips	152	138	-9.2

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)



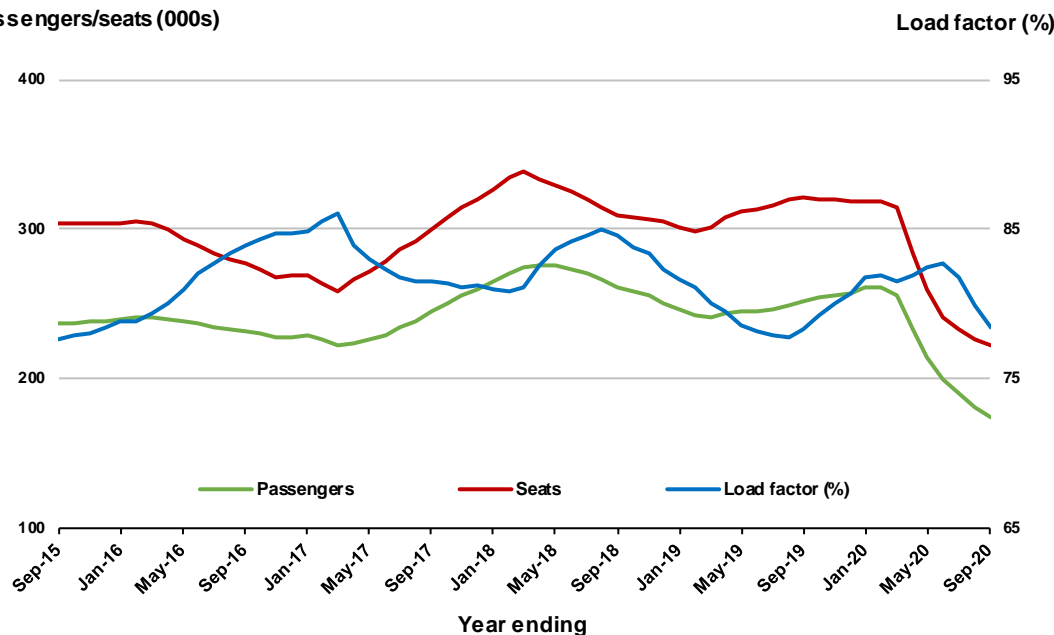
(a) no flights in April and May 2020.

Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	251.8	173.7	-31.0
Seats (000s)	321.7	221.7	-31.1
Load factor %	78.3	78.4	0.1 *
Aircraft trips	1 811	1 284	-29.1

* percentage point difference

Passengers/seats (000s)

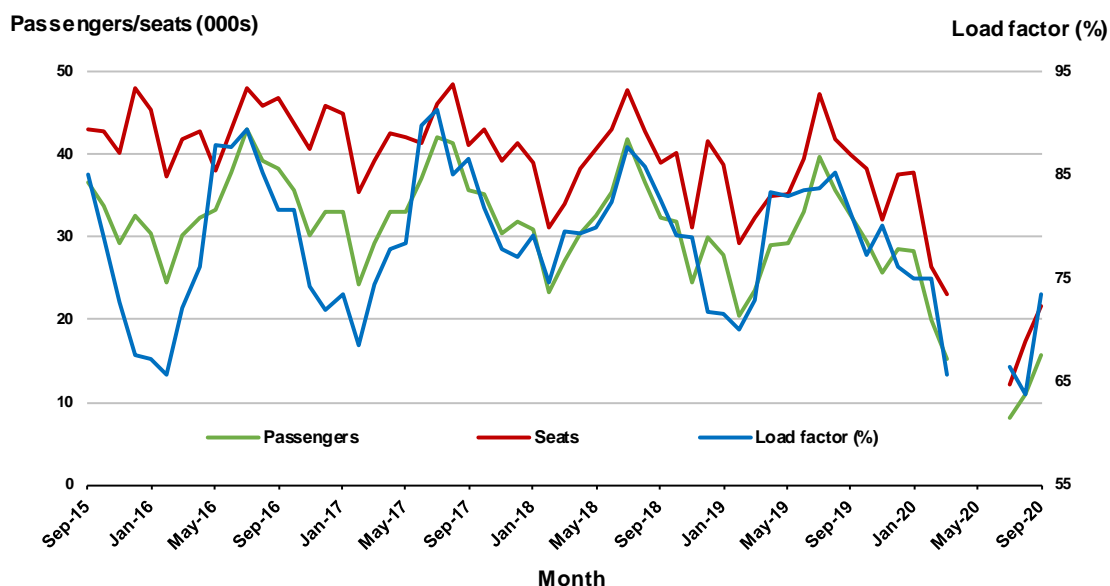


10. Brisbane - Darwin ^(a)

Monthly data

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	32.5	15.8	-51.4
Seats (000s)	40.0	21.5	-46.2
Load factor %	81.2	73.4	-7.8 *
Aircraft trips	245	140	-42.9

* percentage point difference

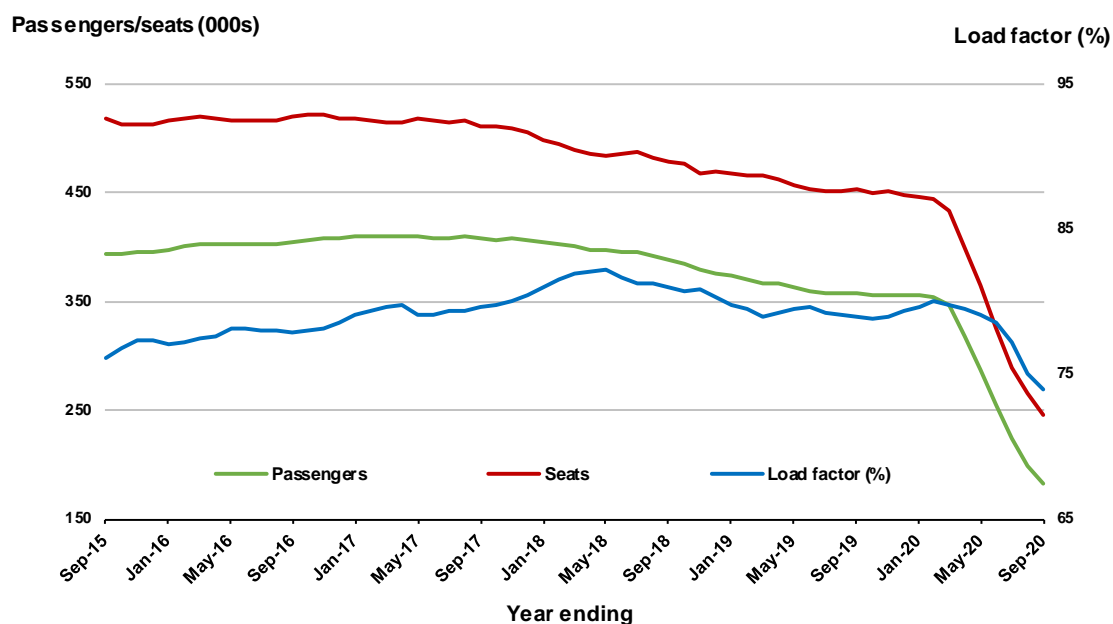


(a) April, May and June 2020 data not available for release.

Moving annual data

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	357.3	181.9	-49.1
Seats (000s)	452.4	246.2	-45.6
Load factor %	79.0	73.9	-5.1 *
Aircraft trips	2 784	1 597	-42.6

* percentage point difference



TOP FIFTY REGIONAL AIRPORTS

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

Airport	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
1 Cairns	360.4	124.8	-65.4
2 Townsville	150.7	61.8	-59.0
3 Darwin	155.9	50.0	-68.0
4 Ballina	43.5	36.1	-17.0
5 Mackay	78.8	35.4	-55.1
6 Broome	39.7	34.0	-14.4
7 Karratha	41.8	30.4	-27.1
8 Rockhampton	50.1	21.2	-57.6
9 Alice Springs	49.7	18.6	-62.5
10 Proserpine	39.3	16.8	-57.1
11 Hamilton Island	44.4	15.5	-65.0
12 Port Hedland	33.1	15.3	-54.0
13 Kalgoorlie	24.2	14.5	-39.8
14 Mount Isa	19.6	13.2	-32.5
15 Newman	29.5	10.8	-63.4
16 Paraburdoo	16.9	8.2	-51.4
17 Gladstone	21.4	7.9	-62.9
18 Emerald	17.6	7.7	-55.9
19 Thursday Island	9.0	7.5	-17.5
20 Learmonth	7.0	7.2	3.3
21 Port Lincoln	14.5	7.1	-50.8
22 Kununurra	11.0	6.1	-44.2
23 Hobart	212.5	5.1	-97.6
24 Gove	6.2	4.9	-21.0
25 Launceston	101.8	4.5	-95.6
26 Dubbo	18.3	4.4	-75.9
27 Olympic Dam	6.0	4.4	-27.0
28 Weipa	5.7	4.3	-25.6
29 Coffs Harbour	34.2	4.2	-87.8
30 Esperance	4.3	3.1	-26.5
31 Moranbah	9.2	3.1	-66.2
32 Albany	5.1	3.1	-40.1
33 Cloncurry	3.9	2.8	-27.2
34 Roma	8.3	2.7	-67.8
35 Palm Island	2.6	2.4	-7.9
36 Geraldton	9.0	2.3	-74.0
37 Longreach	3.9	2.3	-40.1
38 Bundaberg	13.5	2.2	-83.8
39 Toowoomba Wellcamp	11.1	2.2	-80.6
40 Wagga Wagga	19.0	2.1	-88.7
41 Whyalla	7.0	2.1	-70.2
42 Carnarvon	2.4	2.0	-16.9
43 King Island	3.5	1.9	-46.6
44 Doomadgee	1.6	1.9	14.9
45 Normanton	1.9	1.8	-4.4
46 Christmas Island	1.5	1.7	18.1
47 Mornington Island	1.5	1.7	11.1
48 Groote Eylandt	2.5	1.7	-32.5
49 Newcastle	107.1	1.6	-98.5
50 Bathurst Island	1.3	1.5	18.3
Total top 50 regional airports	1 862.8	628.2	-66.3
Total regional airports	2 149.7	675.9	-68.6
Total domestic network	10 383.6	1 399.4	-86.5

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 Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
1 Cairns	4 181.9	2 211.1	-47.1
2 Hobart	2 761.7	1 454.2	-47.3
3 Townsville	1 650.9	963.5	-41.6
4 Darwin	1 732.5	850.8	-50.9
5 Launceston	1 390.5	726.8	-47.7
6 Newcastle	1 267.8	622.1	-50.9
7 Mackay	863.5	546.4	-36.7
8 Ballina	533.9	377.1	-29.4
9 Rockhampton	563.0	336.5	-40.2
10 Karratha	456.5	303.8	-33.5
11 Alice Springs	583.8	270.4	-53.7
12 Hamilton Island	441.1	256.3	-41.9
13 Proserpine	429.7	255.5	-40.5
14 Port Hedland	381.6	247.7	-35.1
15 Broome	406.7	242.8	-40.3
16 Coffs Harbour	397.6	202.6	-49.1
17 Newman	335.5	200.8	-40.2
18 Ayers Rock	482.7	192.7	-60.1
19 Kalgoorlie	292.1	180.2	-38.3
20 Mount Isa	220.0	162.3	-26.2
21 Gladstone	246.9	144.6	-41.4
22 Emerald	198.0	124.0	-37.4
23 Mildura	255.8	120.3	-53.0
24 Albury	254.3	119.7	-52.9
25 Paraburdoo	185.6	115.6	-37.7
26 Dubbo	211.7	113.0	-46.6
27 Port Lincoln	169.1	111.2	-34.2
28 Port Macquarie	217.0	106.7	-50.8
29 Wagga Wagga	206.6	102.7	-50.3
30 Tamworth	186.9	94.6	-49.4
31 Bundaberg	154.9	83.8	-45.9
32 Hervey Bay	164.3	81.7	-50.3
33 Devonport	147.2	72.1	-51.0
34 Moranbah	109.3	65.8	-39.8
35 Kununurra	114.0	65.1	-42.9
36 Toowoomba Wellcamp	119.9	63.9	-46.6
37 Thursday Island	98.4	63.2	-35.8
38 Armidale	130.7	63.0	-51.8
39 Learmonth	87.2	57.2	-34.4
40 Geraldton	108.6	56.6	-47.9
41 Gove	81.7	56.3	-31.1
42 Roma	95.7	53.6	-44.0
43 Griffith	91.4	48.1	-47.4
44 Weipa	74.1	46.3	-37.5
45 Olympic Dam	77.3	43.8	-43.3
46 Mount Gambier	84.1	42.6	-49.3
47 Orange	80.9	41.7	-48.5
48 Whyalla	79.0	41.2	-47.9
49 Burnie	72.1	40.5	-43.9
50 Albany	62.0	39.3	-36.6
Total top 50 regional airports	23 537.6	12 881.9	-45.3
Total regional airports	24 979.7	13 796.5	-44.8
Total domestic network	122 224.2	62 820.4	-48.6

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

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	226 095	322 930	42.8
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	3 843	6 328	64.7

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

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

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	2 625 372	2 993 677	14.0
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	45 231	60 134	32.9

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

Table 14: Domestic airports - charter activity - monthly

	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	452 190	645 860	42.8
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	7 686	12 656	64.7
Perth airport charter passenger movements	176 012	244 963	39.2
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	2 716	3 984	46.7

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

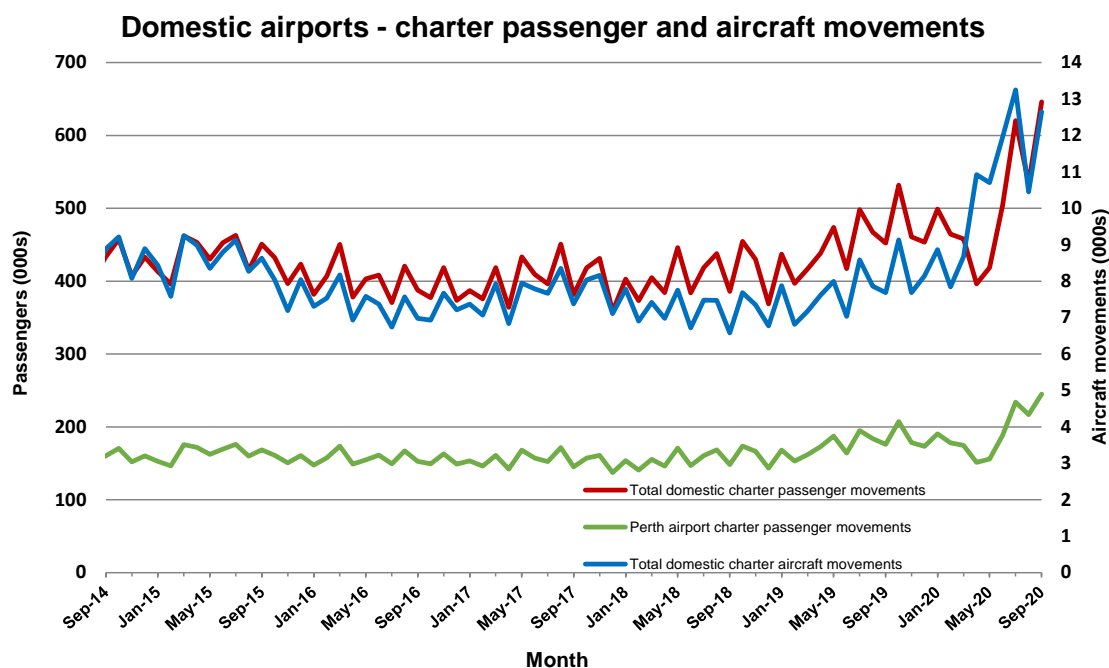
Charter passenger and aircraft movement numbers are the sum of arrivals and departures at each airport.

Table 15: Domestic airports - charter activity - annual

	YE Sep 2019	YE Sep 2020	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	5 250 744	5 987 354	14.0
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	90 462	120 268	32.9
Perth airport charter passenger movements	2 045 411	2 293 126	12.1
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	31 986	41 020	28.2

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	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.