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**Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development**

Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics

STATISTICAL REPORT



bitre

Aviation

Australian Aircraft Activity 2014





Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics

## **Australian Aircraft Activity 2014**

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Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE)  
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development  
GPO Box 501, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Telephone: (international) +61 2 6274 7210

Fax: (international) +61 2 6274 6855

Email: [bitre@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:bitre@infrastructure.gov.au)

Website: [www.bitre.gov.au](http://www.bitre.gov.au)

## Inquiries

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

Glen Malam

Telephone (02) 6274 7786 or Facsimile (02) 6274 7727

Electronic mail: [AVSTATS@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:AVSTATS@infrastructure.gov.au)

[Glen.Malam@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:Glen.Malam@infrastructure.gov.au)

Website: [www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/aviation/general\\_aviation.aspx](http://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/aviation/general_aviation.aspx)

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# Important notice to readers

The Tenth Session of the Statistics Division of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) recommended significant changes to the statistical reporting arrangements for member states. These changes were adopted by the ICAO Council and a new edition of the Reference Manual on the ICAO Statistics Program was published in late 2013.

The changes outlined in the Reference Manual included the introduction of a new ICAO Classification of Civil Aviation Activities. The classification separates flying activity into either *commercial air transport services* or *general aviation*; where commercial air transport services are classified as either scheduled or non-scheduled services and general aviation is classified as non-commercial business aviation, aerial work, pleasure flying, instructional flying or other flying.

These changes were discussed in *General Aviation Activity 2011* and readers were invited to provide feedback. All comments were considered, with the following changes introduced to this publication:

- BITRE has adopted the new ICAO Classification of Civil Aviation Activities, incorporating additional detail to better reflect Australian conditions.
- While the results of the General Aviation Activity Survey are presented in this publication, statistics are also presented for commercial air transport activity (including Regular Public Transport). The title of this publication has therefore changed from *General Aviation Activity* to *Australian Aircraft Activity* from this issue.





# Explanatory Notes

## Australian aviation statistics publications

In order to provide a complete, integrated statistical summary of all Australian aviation, BITRE conducts a range of surveys covering the full spectrum of flying activity.

Monthly surveys of airlines are conducted to compile estimates of:

- Passengers carried to, from and within Australia by Australian and foreign-registered airlines.
- Cargo carried to, from and within Australia by Australian and foreign-registered airlines.
- Changes to airfares charged on competitive Australian domestic routes.
- The on time performance of domestic airlines.
- Aircraft movements and flying activity by airlines.

Originally, the scope of these monthly airline surveys was limited to scheduled regular public transport (RPT) flights, but in 2011 the scope was expanded to include large charter flights that are similar in scale to RPT flights. The monthly surveys of charter activity compile estimates of:

- Passengers carried within Australia on charter flights.
- Cargo carried within Australia on charter flights.
- Aircraft movements and flying activity by charter operators.

To provide a complete statistical summary of Australian aviation, BITRE compiles an annual survey of Australian registered aircraft undertaking On Demand Commercial Air Transport and General Aviation activity. The annual “General Aviation Survey” compiles estimates of:

- Aircraft movements and flying activity by Australian-registered aircraft not reported in the monthly surveys.

The results of these surveys are published in activity-specific reports:

- The monthly *International Airline Activity* report provides a summary of international passenger and cargo air travel to and from Australia. The report also provides an estimate of the movement of passengers between Australian airports by foreign-registered airlines. Statistics published in this report are compiled from the results of monthly surveys of international airlines that operate to/from Australia.
- The monthly *Domestic Aviation Activity* report provides a summary of domestic passenger and cargo air travel within Australia. This publication also provides statistics on the movement of passengers through regional airports and summary statistics for the movement of

passengers on large charter flights. Statistics published in this report are compiled from the results of monthly surveys of domestic airlines and aviation charter companies that operate in Australia.

- The monthly *Domestic On Time Performance* report provides measures of the on time performance of key domestic airlines on competitive routes. Statistics published in this report are compiled from the results of monthly surveys of key domestic airlines operating in Australia.
- The monthly *Domestic Air Fare Indexes* release is a web-based report providing an index-based measure of changes in air fares on competitive routes over time. Statistics published in this report are compiled from information published on domestic airlines' websites for specific routes identified as competitive in the Domestic Aviation Activity report.
- The annual *Australian Aircraft Activity* report (this publication) provides statistics on the flying activity of all Australian-registered aircraft. Key measures are the number of hours flown and the number of landings, classified by the type of flying activity and aircraft type. Statistics published in this report are compiled by merging the results of the annual General Aviation Activity Survey with the results of the monthly surveys of airlines.

## Data sources

Survey questionnaires were despatched to owners or operators of all aircraft listed on the Australian Civil Aircraft Register, other than aircraft operated by major airlines already surveyed in the monthly airline surveys. Responses were received for 75.4 per cent of aircraft in scope of the Survey. For aircraft where a response was not received, careful estimates were substituted, based on the average of responses by similar aircraft.

Not all aircraft in Australia are listed on the Australian Civil Aircraft Register. Owners of ultralight aircraft, gliders, weight shift aircraft and gyrocopters may instead be registered with their respective associations. Statistics for these aircraft types have been supplied courtesy of Recreational Aviation Australia, the Gliding Federation of Australia, the Hang Gliding Federation of Australia and the Australian Sport Rotorcraft Association.

BITRE statistical surveys are conducted under the authority of Air Navigation Regulation 2016 Part 2. BITRE wishes to thank aircraft owners and operators for their assistance with these statistical collections.

## Please note

Landings include touch-and-go landings and alighting on water.

Location statistics provided in this report refer to the location where the aircraft is most frequently based. For some operations, this may be a significant distance away from where aircraft activity may occur.

Aircraft make is generally the manufacturer. However, in cases where there have been changes to the company's name, structure or ownership with little change to the line of aircraft produced, common names (or the most recent name) may be used or retained.

Where figures have been rounded, differences may occur between the sums of component items and totals

### ***Symbols and other usages***

na	Not applicable.
r	Revised.
-	Greater than zero but less than 50.
..	Not available for confidentiality or other reasons.

### ***Abbreviations***

ASRA	Australian Sport Rotorcraft Association
BITRE	Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
CAT	Commercial Air Transport
C of A	Certificate of Airworthiness
GA	General Aviation
GFA	Gliding Federation of Australia
HGFA	Hang Gliding Federation of Australia
RA-Aus	Recreational Aviation Australia
RPT	Regular Public Transport



# Highlights

## The Australian Aircraft Fleet

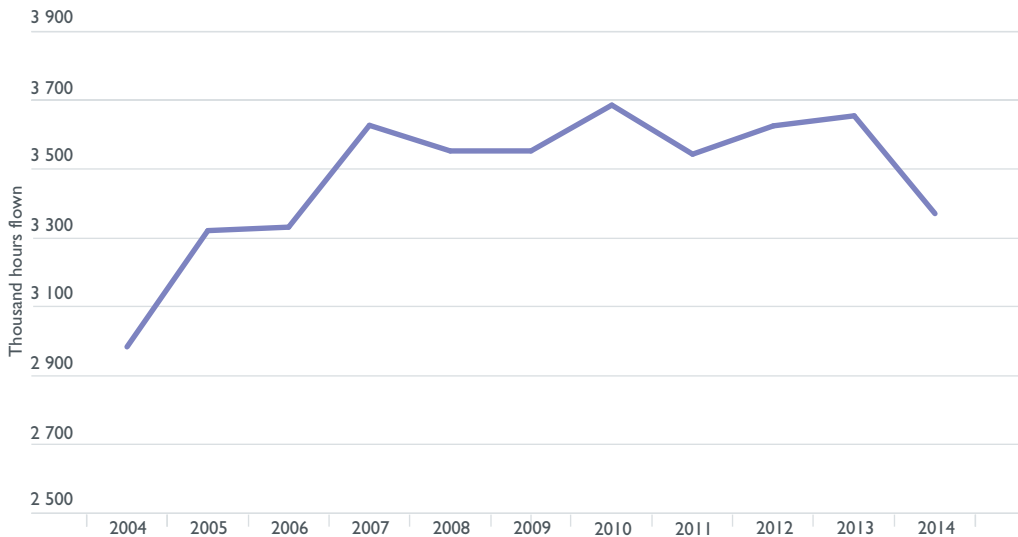
Total hours flown by Australian aircraft was 3.37 million in 2014, a decrease of 7.8 per cent compared with the previous year (see Table 1).

Total airline RPT flying hours fell 1.4 per cent in 2014 to 1.39 million hours (see Table 1). Other VH-Registered aircraft flying hours fell 9.8 per cent in 2014 to 1.57 million hours (see Table 1).

The Sports and Recreation Associations registered sector recorded 410 thousand flying hours in 2014, a decrease of 18.4 per cent compared to 2013 (see Table 1).

Figure 1 shows the flying hours performed by Australian Aircraft.

**Figure 1** Australian Aircraft Fleet hours flown, (2004–2014)





## The General Aviation and Commercial Air Transport VH-registered fleet

The total number of hours flown by General Aviation and Commercial Air Transport VH-registered aircraft for the year ending 31 December 2014 was 2.96 million. This consisted of 1.82 million hours in Commercial Air Transport and 1.14 million hours in General Aviation (see Table 7).

Commercial Air Transport consists of two sectors, Scheduled and Non-Scheduled. Scheduled Commercial Air Transport recorded 1.39 million hours, while Non-Scheduled recorded 434 thousand hours. Within Scheduled, the largest activity was Domestic, with 1 million hours. While in Non-Scheduled, Passenger transport charters was the largest activity with 326 thousand hours (see Table 7).

General Aviation consists of five different sectors of flying. Aerial Work (457 thousand hours), Own Use Business (119 thousand hours), Instructional flying (324 thousand hours), Sport and pleasure flying (199 thousand hours), and Other flying (38 thousand hours). The largest flying activity in Aerial Work was Agricultural mustering, recording 139 thousand hours. Commercial Instructional flying activity made up the majority of the Instructional flying sector, recording 260 thousand hours. While within the Sport and pleasure flying sector the largest flying activity was Pleasure and personal transport, recording 121 thousand hours (see Table 7).

The total number of landings by General Aviation and Commercial Air Transport VH-registered aircraft for the year ending 31 December 2014 was 2.93 million. This consisted of 1.24 million landings in Commercial Air Transport and 1.69 million landings in General Aviation (see Table 7).

Figure 2 shows the flying hours performed by VH-registered aircraft by the major industry sectors.

**Figure 2** VH-registered fleet hours flown, by major industry sectors (2014)

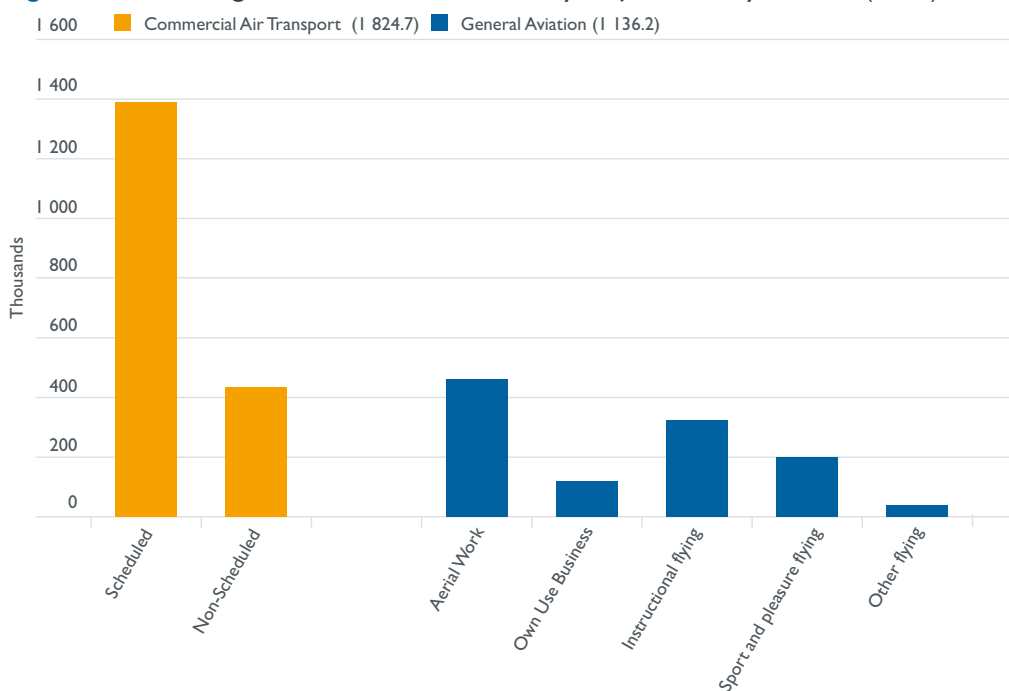
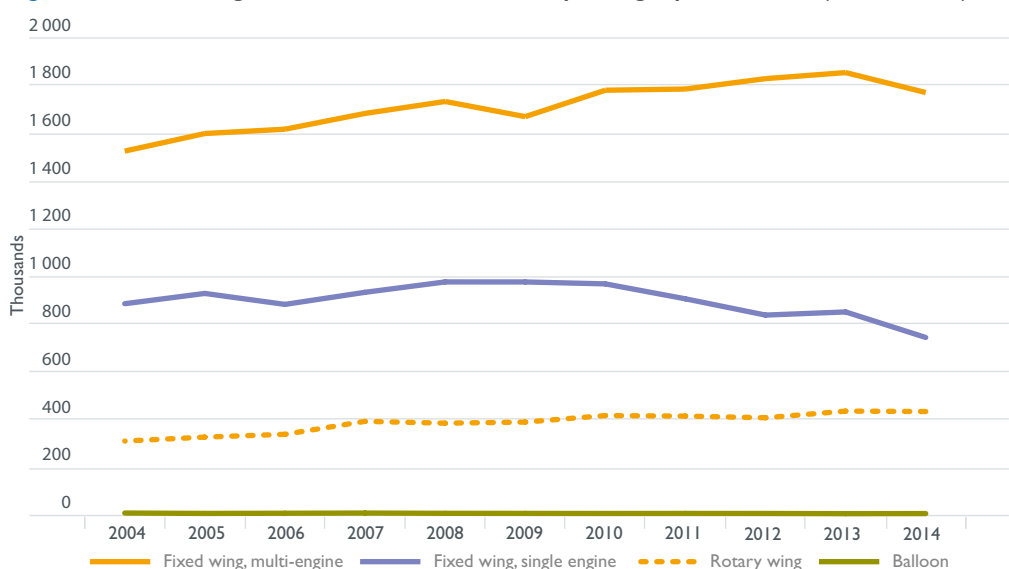


Figure 3 shows the flying hours performed by VH-registered aircraft by the major categories of aircraft.

**Figure 3** VH-registered fleet hours flown, by category of aircraft (2004–2014)



The general aviation and commercial air transport VH-registered fleets include 13 976 aircraft on the Civil Aviation Aircraft Register (Table 3). The number of aircraft registered at 31 December 2014 represents an increase of 2.9 per cent over the number registered at 31 December 2013 (13 585 aircraft).

The number of fixed wing, single engine aircraft increased by 0.7 per cent to 9 140, or 65.4 per cent of all registered aircraft in the General Aviation and Commercial Air Transport VH-registered fleet (see Table 4).

Fixed wing, multi-engine aircraft increased by 15.1 per cent to 2 363 (16.9 per cent of the total) (see Table 4).

The number of helicopters increased by 0.7 per cent to 2 092 (15 per cent of the total), with the number of single engine helicopters decreasing by 0.2 per cent to 1 847. The number of multi-engine helicopters increased by 7.9 per cent to 245 (see Table 4).

Hot-air balloons and airships increased by 0.5 per cent to 381, or 2.7 per cent of total aircraft (see Table 4).

The Australian General Aviation and Commercial Air Transport VH-registered fleet contains many older aircraft, with the average age being 32.9 years for fixed wing aircraft, compared to 17.5 years for rotary aircraft and 13.3 years for balloons and airships (see Table 4).

About one in every five (2 751 aircraft) registered General Aviation and Commercial Air Transport VH-registered aircraft reported performing no flying during the year ended 31 December 2014.

From responses to the survey, reasons why the aircraft did not fly were provided for most of these aircraft. These reasons, reported for 2 674 out of the 2 751 inactive aircraft, are summarised in the following table:

**Table A** Reasons for nil flying activity (2014)

Reason for nil activity	Number of aircraft	Percentage of reporting inactive aircraft
Repair / maintenance / restoration	1 050	39.3
Aircraft in storage	374	14.0
Aircraft unserviceable / unairworthy	246	9.2
Aircraft awaiting sale	169	6.3
Amateur-built aircraft not yet completed	109	4.1
Sold prior to 1 January 2014	108	4.0
Work or other commitments	103	3.9
Lack of business / company ceased operating	100	3.7
Owner's health issues / deceased	81	3.0
Financial reasons	77	2.9
Museum or stock aircraft	34	1.3
Operator or owner travelling	31	1.2
Drought	31	1.2
C of A not yet issued	29	1.1
All other reasons	132	4.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 674</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: This table covers aircraft with zero hours reported and not those with reduced hours for any of the above reasons (for example, drought).

## The Sport and Recreational registered fleet

The sport and recreational registered aircraft fleet in 2014 consisted of 7 388 aircraft who flew a total of 410 hours (see Table 5).

### *Ultralight flying*

#### Information provided by Recreational Aviation Australia (RA-Aus)

In 2014, ultralight aircraft flew a total of 147 thousand hours, representing a decrease of 19.1 per cent over 2013 (see Table 12).

Queensland undertook the most ultralight flying with 48 thousand hours, or 32.8 per cent of the Australian total (see Table 11). NSW accounted for 38 thousand hours (26.0 per cent), while Victoria recorded 32 thousand hours (21.8 per cent).

At the end of December 2014, a total 3 171 aircraft had current registrations issued by Recreational Aviation Australia, a decrease of 5.1 per cent over 2013 (3 342 aircraft) (see Table 5).

### *Gliding*

#### Information provided by the Gliding Federation of Australia (GFA)

The number of registered gliders in 2014 was 1 224, an increase of 5.1 per cent compared with December 2013. The total number of reported flying hours decreased by 30.4 per cent to 110.9 thousand hours in the calendar year 2014 compared with 2013 (see Table 1).

### *Hang gliding*

#### Information provided by the Hang Gliding Federation of Australia (HGFA)

The total number of hours flown by hang gliders in 2013–14 was down 2.9 per cent on the previous year to 113.8 thousand hours (see Table 1).

### *Gyroplanes*

#### Information provided by the Australian Sport Rotorcraft Association (ASRA)

The number of gyroplanes in 2013–14 was 302. The total number of estimated hours flown by gyroplanes in 2014 decreased by 13.4 per cent to 38.9 thousand hours (see Table 1).





# Tables

**Table 1** Total hours flown by industry sector (1985–2014)

Year	Total scheduled <sup>a</sup>	Other VH-registered aircraft <sup>b</sup>	Ultralight flying <sup>c</sup>	Gliding <sup>d</sup>	Hang Gliding <sup>e</sup>	Gyroplanes <sup>f</sup>	Total
			(thousand hours)				
1985	494.8	1 568.1	..	79.9	..	..	2 142.8
1986	518.9	1 558.6	..	..	..	..	2 077.5
1987	556.4	1 597.4	..	79.9	..	..	2 233.7
1988	600.1	1 762.6	..	79.9	..	..	2 442.6
1989	554.9	1 927.6	..	75.4	..	..	2 557.9
1990	613.1	1 930.8	..	72.6	..	..	2 616.4
1991	692.8	1 754.7	..	74.2	63.7	..	2 585.4
1992	750.3	1 651.0	52.4	83.3	73.5	..	2 610.4
1993	781.2	1 703.9	56.8	73.0	86.2	..	2 701.1
1994	838.7	1 715.7	73.0	80.1	77.6	15.0	2 800.1
1995	899.6	1 761.3	72.0	75.9	86.4	14.4	2 909.6
1996	938.5	1 799.0	70.4	69.2	103.2	23.3	3 003.7
1997	969.8	1 839.3	75.1	68.9	102.3	23.3	3 078.7
1998	958.2	1 877.9	67.6	65.4	87.5	33.4	3 090.0
1999	963.5	1 842.2	73.9	63.9	104.6	30.4	3 078.5
2000	1 074.2	1 714.8	74.1	..	106.7	29.7	2 999.5
2001	1 044.3	1 702.9	76.5	..	120.0	37.0	2 980.6
2002	926.0	1 687.7	80.6	..	122.2	32.3	2 848.9
2003	969.0	1 645.9	84.5	..	124.7	28.3	2 852.5
2004	1 090.4	1 645.0	87.1	..	132.0	29.3	2 983.7
2005	1 144.1	1 722.8	92.9	194.7	134.2	32.9	3 321.6
2006	1 156.7	1 695.0	120.2	228.9	103.0	27.9	3 331.6
2007	1 191.6	1 831.8	138.3	343.4	94.5	28.0	3 627.6
2008	1 250.5	1 857.7	156.2	169.9	88.3	30.5	3 553.1
2009	1 241.4	1 807.5	174.3	198.4	96.0	35.6	3 553.2
2010	1 325.7 <sup>r</sup>	1 847.7	141.9	228.7	97.9	44.4	3 686.4
2011	1 347.4 <sup>r</sup>	1 771.4	150.8	126.9	98.7	48.6	3 543.7
2012	1 382.1 <sup>r</sup>	1 704.9	195.2	192.0	105.1	46.8	3 626.1
2013	1 410.7 <sup>r</sup>	1 741.8	181.1	159.4 <sup>r</sup>	117.2	44.9	3 655.2
2014	1 390.4	1 570.5	146.5	110.9	113.8	38.9	3 371.0

**a** Hours flown by Australian (including regional) airlines on domestic and international flight stages in Scheduled operations. From August 2004 RPT freight operations are included.

**b** Includes hours flown in General Aviation as well as Non-Scheduled Commercial Air Transport (Charter)

**c** Year ended 30 June prior to 2011. Calendar year for 2011, 2012, 2013. Data for 2014 are for year ended 30 June.

**d** Year ended 30 April prior to 2000. No data are available between 2000 and 2004. Data from 2005–2010 are for year ended 30 June. Data from 2011 are for calendar year.

**e** Year ended 30 June.

**f** Year ended 30 June until 2005. From 2006 onwards, calendar year data are provided.

**r** revised

**Table 2** Hours flown and percentage change, by industry sector and flying activity (2012–2014)

Flying Activity	2012		2013		2014 <sup>a</sup>	
	Hours flown ( thousands )	Percentage change over 2011	Hours flown ( thousands )	Percentage change over 2012	Hours flown ( thousands )	Percentage change over 2013
Scheduled	1 382.1	-2.6%	1 410.7	2.1%	1 390.4	-1.4%
Non-scheduled <sup>b</sup>	501.7	3.4%	485.9	-3.2%	399.1	-17.9%
Private	232.6	-2.0%	231.2	-0.6%	155.5	-32.7%
Business	130.4	-9.9%	130.8	0.3%	118.8	-9.1%
Test and ferry	20.8	15.9%	23.8	14.6%	38.2	60.3%
Training	360.9	-6.7%	378.9	5.0%	323.9	-14.5%
Agriculture	89.1	-11.3%	79.8	-10.4%	75.9	-4.9%
Survey and photography	48.1	-29.4%	50.4	4.7%	39.4	-21.7%
Pipe and powerline patrol	20.2	21.8%	20.4	1.0%	48.0	135.3%
Mustering	112.5	-10.6%	124.9	11.0%	138.9	11.2%
Search and rescue	6.2	-5.9%	6.0	-3.3%	10.3	71.7%
Ambulance	97.0	9.7%	99.8	3.0%	74.5	-25.3%
Towing	8.3	24.7%	5.5	-33.5%	4.8	-13.0%
Other aerial work	77.1	-11.0%	104.4	35.5%	143.0	37.0%
<b>Total Hours Flown</b>	<b>3 087.0</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>	<b>3 152.5</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>2 960.9</b>	<b>-6.1%</b>

Note: Includes data from General Aviation Activity survey, Domestic Monthly Survey, and International Monthly Survey.

**a** Activity Classifications based on 2013 categories

**b** Excludes Air Ambulance which was reclassified from General Aviation to Commercial air transport in 2014.

**Table 3** Number of aircraft, landings and hours flown in General Aviation and Commercial Air Transport operations by state or territory (2014)<sup>a</sup>

State or Territory	Number of aircraft			Commercial Air Transport		General Aviation		Total
	Total	Active <sup>b</sup>	Number of landings (thousands)	No. Active aircraft <sup>b</sup>	Hours flown (thousands)	No. Active aircraft <sup>b</sup>	Hours flown (thousands)	Hours flown (thousands)
Intrastate								
NSW	3705	2883	623.4	470	222.4	2682	255.8	478.1
QLD	3368	2709	611.1	593	205.2	2561	292.4	497.7
VIC	2747	2198	430.2	323	50.6	2097	218.9	269.5
WA	2018	1644	505.4	498	225.0	1359	190.4	415.5
SA	881	718	186.9	97	26.9	698	94.0	120.9
NT	591	474	156.1	246	67.0	385	66.3	133.3
TAS	193	155	23.9	36	3.9	131	11.8	15.7
ACT	156	127	13.3	31	5.4	121	6.5	11.9
Interstate	240	240	320.3	240	652.5			652.5
International	77	77	61.6	77	365.8			365.8
Australia	13 976	11 225	2 932.2	2 611	1 824.7	10 034	1 136.2	2 960.9

Note: Includes data from General Aviation Activity survey, Domestic Monthly Survey, and International Monthly Survey

**a** VH-registered aircraft only

**b** General Aviation and Commercial Air Transport active aircraft may exceed total active aircraft as some aircraft may operate in both categories

**Table 4 Australian Aircraft Fleet, VH-registered (2014)**

<b>Aircraft make</b>	<b>Number of Aircraft</b>	<b>Average age of aircraft (years)</b>	<b>Hours flown ( thousands )</b>	<b>Landings</b>
<b>Fixed wing, single-engine</b>				
Cessna	3 303	37.0	341.6	464.0
Piper	1 446	40.3	102.3	173.0
Amateur built	1 310	13.9	31.3	43.6
Beechcraft	362	38.8	14.5	16.2
De Havilland	310	69.8	8.5	20.8
Air Tractor	166	14.7	36.5	69.3
Mooney	159	34.4	7.6	7.0
Cirrus	138	7.4	9.0	10.3
Auster	132	63.7	1.4	2.6
American Champion	96	28.4	10.7	16.3
Other	1 718	33.1	182.2	372.1
Subtotal	9 140	34.1	745.7	1 195.0
<b>Fixed wing, multi-engine</b>				
Piper	439	37.8	64.5	65.9
Beechcraft	435	30.1	110.8	111.8
Cessna	433	34.6	64.2	61.1
Boeing	191	8.9	618.3	261.5
Airbus	125	5.7	487.2	164.1
Bombardier	73	8.6	104.5	97.7
Aero Commander	61	42.8	13.2	22.2
Saab	53	20.7	58.0	65.1
Fairchild	52	26.2	23.0	24.0
Embraer	51	14.9	37.6	26.5
Other	450	29.9	190.6	150.1
Subtotal	2 363	28.4	1 771.6	1 049.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>11 503</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>2 517.3</b>	<b>2 244.8</b>
<b>Helicopter make</b>				
<b>Rotary wing, single-engine</b>				
Robinson	1 057	10.5	236.9	325.0
Bell	321	34.7	56.9	90.5
Aerospatiale/Eurocopter	180	17.7	41.6	76.4
Amateur built	101	10.8	0.9	2.2
Schweizer	40	13.6	7.0	11.7
Hughes	32	34.7	6.8	11.1
Agusta	25	37.4	3.8	5.0
Kawasaki	22	46.0	1.2	1.9
Enstrom	17	31.0	1.8	2.6

Aircraft make	Number of Aircraft	Average age of aircraft (years)	Hours flown ( thousands )	Landings
Hiller	7	44.1	0.4	0.6
Other	45	28.6	6.8	10.2
Subtotal	1 847	17.5	364.1	537.1
<b>Rotary wing, multi-engine</b>				
Aerospatiale/Eurocopter	77	17.6	24.0	38.9
Bell	57	22.6	15.8	29.1
Agusta	37	7.6	11.5	25.1
Sikorsky	29	19.9	9.2	27.8
Kawasaki	20	24.0	5.6	13.6
Other	25	17.6	5.3	7.2
Subtotal	245	18.1	71.4	141.8
<b>Total</b>	2 092	17.5	435.5	678.9
<b>Balloon or airship make</b>				
Kavanagh	257	10.5	7.1	7.5
Cameron	53	18.4	0.5	0.5
Thunder/Colt	35	25.1	0.2	0.2
Amateur built	15	5.7	0.2	0.2
Balloon Works	9	26.7	-	-
Other	12	14.8	0.1	0.1
<b>Total</b>	381	13.3	8.1	8.5

Note: Includes data from General Aviation Activity survey, Domestic Monthly Survey and International Monthly Survey

**Table 5** Australian Aircraft Fleet, Sports and Recreational registered aircraft (2014)

<b>Aircraft</b>	<b>Number of aircraft</b>	<b>Hours flown ( thousands )</b>
<b>Ultralight</b>		
Jabiru	746	47.8
Airborne Windsports	194	8.8
Aerochute	168	2.4
Tecnam	148	12.4
ICP	145	5.9
Skyfox	102	6.1
Aeroprakt	95	7.4
Thruster	78	1.1
Austflight ULA	76	3.6
Zenair	73	1.3
Australian Light Wing	72	1.8
Rand Kar	54	0.9
RANS	38	0.5
Evektor	37	4.3
Fly Synthesis	35	0.8
Other	723	33.0
Unknown	387	8.5
Subtotal	3 171	146.5
<b>Gliders</b>	1 224	110.9
<b>Hang gliders</b>	2 691	113.8
<b>Gyroplanes</b>	302	38.9
<b>Total</b>	7 388	410.1

Note: Includes data from Sport and Recreational Associations

**Table 6** Number of Aircraft, by Fuel Type and Hours Flown in VH-registered (2014)

Fuel type	Number of aircraft	Total hours flown (thousands)
<b>Fixed wing, single engine</b>		
Diesel	8	2.6
Avtur	471	133.5
Avgas	8 661	609.6
Subtotal	9 140	745.7
<b>Fixed wing, multi-engine</b>		
Diesel	6	1.5
Avtur	1 052	1 566.5
Avgas	1 305	203.6
Subtotal	2 363	1 771.6
Subtotal (Fixed wing)	11 503	2 517.3
<b>Rotary wing, single engine</b>		
Avtur	556	110.3
Avgas	1 291	253.8
Subtotal	1 847	364.1
<b>Rotary wing, multi-engine</b>		
Avtur	215	60.6
Avgas	30	10.7
Subtotal	245	71.4
Subtotal (Rotary wing)	2 092	435.5
<b>Balloons and airships</b>		
N/A	381	8.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 976</b>	<b>2 960.9</b>

Note: Includes data from General Aviation Activity survey, Domestic Monthly Survey, International Monthly Survey, and Sport and Recreational Associations

**Table 7 Flying Activity by VH-registered aircraft (2014)**

Industry sector and flying activity		Number of Aircraft	Average age of Aircraft	Hours flown	Landings
			(years)	( thousands )	
<b>Commercial air transport</b>					
Scheduled	International	86	6.7	371.0	63.9
	Domestic	489	17.3	1 002.2	633.9
	Freight only	19	27.1	17.2	13.3
Non-scheduled	Passenger transport charters	1 944	25.3	325.5	388.8
	Air ambulance	130	16.2	74.5	85.0
	Freight only	111	27.5	28.0	42.9
	Other commercial air transport	56	28.4	6.3	10.8
<b>Total Commercial air transport</b>		2 611 <sup>a</sup>	23.3	1 824.7	1 238.5
<b>General Aviation</b>					
Aerial work	Agricultural spreading/spraying	781	18.7	65.1	159.0
	Agricultural mustering	766	16.5	138.9	117.6
	Agriculture - other	602	18.4	10.9	12.8
	Construction - sling loads	534	16.4	6.8	9.4
	Construction - other	4	22.8	0.9	1.6
	Photography	685	17.8	11.5	11.8
	Pipeline or powerline surveying	562	17.3	16.6	12.2
	Other surveying	622	17.6	27.9	46.7
	Observation and Patrol	64	23.5	31.4	18.0
	Search and rescue	114	20.3	10.3	18.6
	Policing	57	16.3	11.7	11.5
	Firefighting	724	18.1	36.8	46.0
	Advertising	35	25.3	1.1	2.1
	Other aerial work	867	20.0	86.7	118.6
	Own Use Business	Own business travel	2 407	26.8	118.8
Instructional flying	Instructional flying - commercial	928	23.0	260.3	417.7
	Instructional flying - non-commercial	629	25.8	63.7	172.2
Sport and pleasure flying	Glider towing	37	44.2	3.7	32.9
	Parachute dropping	2 190	39.7	18.6	41.8
	Aerobatics	114	28.3	3.4	7.0
	Joyflights/sightseeing charters	412	22.4	39.3	85.6
	Pleasure and personal transport	4 682	34.2	120.6	155.3
	Community service flights	44	29.5	1.8	1.6
Other flying	Other sport and pleasure flying	692	23.3	11.1	17.7
	Test flights	414	24.5	2.4	3.7
	Ferry flights	575	24.3	10.8	8.8
	Other flights	338	27.2	25.0	50.0
<b>Total General Aviation</b>		10 034 <sup>b</sup>	29.6	1 136.2	1 693.7
<b>Total</b>		11 225 <sup>c</sup>	28.8	2 960.9	2 932.2

<sup>a</sup> The sum of all Commercial Air Transport category's aircraft will exceed Total Commercial Air Transport aircraft as some aircraft operate in multiple categories.

<sup>b</sup> The sum of all General Aviation category's aircraft will exceed Total General Aviation aircraft as some aircraft operate in multiple categories.

<sup>c</sup> The sum of Total General Aviation and Total Commercial Air Transport aircraft will exceed Total aircraft as some aircraft operate in both industry sectors.

Note: Includes data from General Aviation Activity survey, Domestic Monthly Survey, and International Monthly Survey



**Table 8** Hours flown by broad activity type, by state or territory (2014), for VH-registered aircraft

State or Territory	Commercial Air Transport		General Aviation				Total	
	Scheduled	Non-scheduled	Aerial Work	Own Use Business	Instructional flying	Sport and pleasure		Other flying
<i>( thousands )</i>								
Intrastate								
NSW	167.8	54.5	91.4	33.4	69.6	56.1	5.2	478.1
QLD	92.3	112.9	142.0	40.0	50.5	45.8	14.1	497.7
WA	96.3	128.8	84.7	11.6	63.3	26.6	4.3	415.5
VIC	6.9	43.7	50.1	19.4	95.0	46.0	8.5	269.5
NT	7.7	59.3	48.8	4.5	1.9	6.9	4.2	133.3
SA	0.0	26.9	33.1	8.3	40.0	11.5	1.2	120.9
TAS	1.0	2.9	4.7	1.2	2.8	2.9	0.2	15.7
ACT	0.0	5.4	2.1	0.5	0.9	2.6	0.5	11.9
Interstate	652.5							652.5
International	365.8							365.8
Australia	1 390.4	434.3	456.8	118.8	323.9	198.5	38.2	2 960.9

Note: Includes data from General Aviation Activity survey, Domestic Monthly Survey, and International Monthly Survey

**Table 9** Landings by broad activity type, by state or territory (2014), for VH-registered aircraft

State or Territory	Commercial Air Transport		General Aviation				Total	
	Scheduled	Non-scheduled	Aerial Work	Own Use Business	Instructional flying	Sport and pleasure		Other flying
<i>( thousands )</i>								
Intrastate								
NSW	172.9	76.4	138.4	31.0	100.2	96.5	7.9	623.4
QLD	69.3	151.4	173.4	39.1	71.4	89.6	16.8	611.1
WA	66.0	144.6	89.7	10.8	151.5	38.8	4.0	505.4
VIC	10.1	56.5	81.9	18.6	156.0	81.1	26.0	430.2
SA	0.0	25.9	32.9	7.9	99.8	18.5	1.9	186.9
NT	9.7	64.3	60.1	4.3	2.9	9.6	5.1	156.1
TAS	1.3	3.8	7.4	1.2	5.6	4.4	0.2	23.9
ACT	0.0	4.6	2.2	0.5	2.4	3.2	0.6	13.3
Interstate	320.3							320.3
International	61.6							61.6
Australia	711.1	527.4	586.0	113.5	589.9	341.8	62.5	2 932.2

Note: Includes data from General Aviation Activity survey, Domestic Monthly Survey, and International Monthly Survey

**Table 10** Hours flown and landings by jet aircraft, turbo-prop aircraft, piston engine aircraft (2014), for VH-registered aircraft

		Certified aircraft							
		Jet aircraft		Turbo-prop aircraft		Turbo-shaft aircraft		Piston engine aircraft	
		Hours flown	Landings	Hours flown	Landings	Hours flown	Landings	Hours flown	Landings
<i>( thousands )</i>									
Commercial Air Transport	Scheduled	1 156.8	459.7	226.9	240.1	0.0	0.0	6.7	11.3
	Non-scheduled	59.2	40.1	139.5	140.7	51.0	99.5	184.6	247.2
General Aviation	Aerial Work	4.3	2.2	102.0	131.6	96.5	147.3	254.1	304.9
	Own Use Business	10.1	6.5	11.8	11.2	7.1	10.4	89.9	85.3
	Instructional flying	1.2	1.1	3.8	4.7	6.3	9.7	312.7	574.4
	Sport and pleasure	1.7	1.2	6.4	14.5	13.4	32.2	176.9	293.9
	Other flying	1.1	0.6	5.7	8.1	7.2	25.1	24.2	28.8
<b>Total</b>		1 234.4	511.4	496.1	550.8	181.4	324.2	1 049.1	1 545.8

Note: Includes data from General Aviation Activity survey, Domestic Monthly Survey, and International Monthly Survey

**Table 11** Hours flown<sup>a</sup> in Ultralight operations, by state and category of aircraft (2014)

State or Territory	Uncertified aircraft	Certified aircraft							Subtotal (Certified aircraft)	Total
		Commercially manufactured			Amateur-built		Weight shift			
		CAO 95.25	CAO 95.55	CAO 101.55	CAO 95.55	CAO 101.28	Powered parachutes	Trikes CAO 95.32		
<i>( thousands )</i>										
QLD	0.1	1.9	30.6	2.4	10.9	0.8	0.2	1.0	47.9	48.0
NSW	0.6	1.6	22.9	2.2	6.7	0.3	0.5	2.7	37.5	38.0
VIC	0.1	0.1	17.0	3.9	4.6	0.1	1.3	4.7	31.9	31.9
SA	-	0.1	8.3	0.9	5.4	0.1	0.1	0.8	15.7	15.8
WA	0.0	0.1	6.2	-	1.8	-	0.3	1.5	10.0	10.0
TAS	-	0.2	1.4	0.1	0.5	-	-	-	2.3	2.3
NT	-	-	0.2	-	0.3	-	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6
ACT	-	0.0	0.3	-	0.2	0.0	0.0	-	0.6	0.6
Unknown	-	-	0.0	-	0.1	-	-	-	0.1	0.1
Australia	0.8	4.0	86.9	9.6	30.6	1.4	2.5	10.7	145.7	146.5

<sup>a</sup> Covers hours flown during the previous 12 months at time of annual renewal of each aircraft's registration.

Note: All statistics courtesy of Recreational Aviation Australia (RA-Aus). These statistics are subject to frequent revision. BITRE recommends caution when using these statistics.

**Table 12** Hours flown<sup>a</sup> in Ultralight operations, by category of aircraft (2004–2014)

Year	Certified aircraft									Total
	Uncertified aircraft	Commercially manufactured			Amateur-built		Weight shift		Subtotal (Certified aircraft)	
	CAO 95.10	CAO 95.25	CAO 95.55	CAO 101.55	CAO 95.55	CAO 101.28	Powered parachutes	Trikes CAO 95.32		
	<i>( thousands )</i>									
2004	6.1	17.2	11.9	24.8	19.6	3.7	1.6	2.1	81.0	87.1
2005	5.9	16.3	14.3	23.3	23.2	3.5	2.0	4.4	87.0	92.9
2006	5.1	15.3	32.8	25.2	31.1	3.3	3.0	4.5	115.1	120.2
2007	4.0	13.1	55.8	21.3	31.9	3.1	3.4	5.6	134.2	138.3
2008	2.9	11.7	71.2	19.1	36.7	3.5	3.9	7.2	153.3	156.2
2009	2.8	11.6	88.3	16.8	39.7	3.3	4.2	7.5	171.5	174.3
2010	2.3	7.6	72.3	7.6	33.9	5.3	2.5	10.5	139.7	141.9
2011	1.1	5.5	95.2	10.3	27.9	1.0	2.5	7.3	149.7	150.8
2012	1.6	5.0	120.0	10.7	37.2	1.8	1.9	17.0	193.6	195.2
2013	0.9	5.3	118.2	10.3	33.0	1.0	2.4	10.0	180.2	181.1
2014	0.8	4.0	86.9	9.6	30.6	1.4	2.5	10.7	145.7	146.5

**a** Covers hours flown during the previous 12 months at time of annual renewal of each aircraft's registration.

Note: All statistics courtesy of Recreational Aviation Australia (RA-Aus). These statistics are subject to frequent revision. BITRE recommends caution when using these statistics.



# Survey form



**Australian Government**

**Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development**

Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics

## General Aviation Activity Survey Year ended 31 December 2014

This information is collected under the authority of Air Navigation Regulation 12 which provides penalties for non-compliance. This survey has been approved by the Australian Government Statistical Clearing House (Approval Number 00560—11).

**Please return the completed form by 31 August 2015.**

For all aircraft operated in the year ending 31 December 2014, please provide aircraft registrations, postcode of aircraft base, and number of hours flown and landings. Flying activity performed entirely outside Australia or its Territories should not be recorded.

Name:	Username:
-------	-----------

		Aircraft Registration (a)						
		Postcode of Aircraft Base (b)	Hours	Landings	Hours	Landings	Hours	Landings
Commercial Air Transport	Scheduled	International						
		Domestic						
		Freight only						
	Non-Scheduled	Passenger transport charters						
		Air ambulance						
		Freight only						
Other commercial air transport								
General Aviation	Aerial Work	Agricultural spreading / spraying						
		Agricultural mustering						
		Agriculture - other						
		Construction - sling loads						
		Construction - other						
		Photography						
		Pipeline or powerline surveying						
		Other surveying						
		Observation and Patrol						
		Search and Rescue						
		Policing						
		Firefighting						
		Advertising						
	Other aerial work							
		Own business travel						
		Instructional flying - commercial						
	Sport & pleasure flying	Instructional flying - non-commercial						
		Glider towing						
		Parachute dropping						
		Aerobatics						
Joyflights / sightseeing charters								
Pleasure and personal transport								
Community service flights								
Other sport and pleasure flying								
Other flying	Test flights							
	Ferry flights							
	Other Flights							

Additional comments:

Email:	Phone:	Date:
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- (a) Aircraft Registration: Pre-printed registrations are based on information supplied by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority. Please add any additional aircraft you operated in 2014 that are not listed. If insufficient room please photocopy form and attach additional sheets.
- (b) Aircraft Base: Please indicate the postcode of the aerodrome or landing area at which the aircraft was most frequently based during 2014. For balloon operations, indicate the postcode of the general area from which most flying was conducted.

## DEFINITIONS

Flying hours should be recorded on the basis of the types of flying in which the aircraft was engaged, as defined below. Total time (including taxi time) is preferred, but airborne time or tacho time is acceptable if total time is not readily available.

Careful estimates are acceptable where exact figures are not readily available. *If your aircraft was inactive for all of 2014, please provide a 'Nil flying' response by entering '0' in the Hours and Landings fields, as this is required for producing accurate estimates of activity.*

### Commercial Air Transport

#### Scheduled

*International*

*Domestic RPT*

*Freight only*

Scheduled operations of international airlines operating into/out of Australia.

Scheduled operations of domestic airlines operating within Australia.

Scheduled operations carrying freight only.

#### Non Scheduled

*Passenger transport charters*

*Air Ambulance*

*Freight only*

*Other commercial air transport*

Flying involving the carriage of passengers by the aircraft operator or his/her employees for hire or reward (but excluding scheduled airline operations).

Operations as an aerial ambulance for the transport of ill or injured persons (excluding Angel flights).

Flying involving the carriage of cargo by the aircraft operator or his/her employees for hire or reward (but excluding scheduled airline operations).

Includes on-demand charter and all other commercial air transport not classified elsewhere.

### General Aviation

#### Aerial Work

*Agricultural spreading / spraying*

*Agricultural mustering*

*Other agriculture*

*Construction – sling loads*

*Construction – other*

*Photography*

*Pipeline or powerline surveying*

*Other Surveying*

*Observation and patrol*

*Search and rescue*

*Policing*

*Fire fighting*

*Advertising*

*Other Aerial work*

Flying involving the spreading/spraying of chemicals, seeds, and fertilisers. This includes flights to and from the spread / spray area.

Aerial stock mustering involving the direct use of aircraft for the movement of livestock.

Other agricultural activity including aerial culling and baiting.

Flying using sling loads for construction purposes.

Includes all flying for construction purposes, excluding sling loads.

All aerial photographic work.

Aerial inspection patrols along pipelines or powerlines.

Flying involving the use of aircraft for surveying not classified elsewhere. Includes geophysical surveys.

Flying involving the use of aircraft for aerial observations and patrol. Includes coastal surveillance.

Includes any search missions, as well as evacuation or rescue work.

Flying involving the use of aircraft in police operations, includes traffic control, ground support, high-speed car pursuits, observation, air patrol etc.

Flying involving the use of aircraft to combat fires (e.g. spotting, water bombing etc.). This includes flights to and from the fire area.

Includes skywriting and banner towing advertising.

Includes aerial spotting (stock, fish, etc.), cloud seeding, etc.

#### Own-use business travel

Business flying not through a hire or reward arrangement.



<b>Instructional flying</b>	Flying involving training for the issue or renewal of a licence or rating, aircraft type endorsement or conversion training. Includes solo navigation exercises conducted as part of a course of applied flying training.
<b>Sport and pleasure flying</b>	
<i>Pleasure and personal transport</i>	Flying for private pleasure, or personal transport not associated with a business or profession.
<i>Community service flights</i>	Flights that are provided on a voluntary basis for public benefit. This includes non-emergency flights provided as part of an organised voluntary or charitable activity. This does not include flights where a pilot provides a flight to a friend or family member.
<i>Glider towing</i>	Includes the use of aircraft for glider towing.
<i>Parachute dropping</i>	Flying associated with the dropping of parachutists.
<i>Aerobatics</i>	Aerobatic flight involves manoeuvres intentionally performed by an aircraft involving an abrupt change in its attitude, an abnormal attitude, or an abnormal variation in speed.
<i>Joyflights / sightseeing charters</i>	Flying involving the carriage of passengers for joyflights or sightseeing purposes that take off and land at the same location.
<i>Other sport and pleasure flying</i>	Other sport and pleasure flying not classified elsewhere.
<b>Other flying</b>	
<i>Test</i>	Flying associated with the testing of an aircraft.
<i>Ferry</i>	Flying associated with an aircraft delivery or movement to a location for maintenance, hire or other planned use.
<i>Other flying</i>	Flying not classified elsewhere.

## DIFFICULTIES AND ENQUIRES

The aircraft and operator/owner details included on this form are provided to the Bureau by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority shortly before dispatch of the survey forms. Although the latest available information is used, there will inevitably be a number of short-term discrepancies involving recent changes of operator, ownership or address.

Should any discrepancies occur over the longer term, please advise your local CASA office.

If you have any questions relating to the survey, please contact Aviation Statistics Section on (02) 6274 6135, fax (02) 6274 7727 or email [avstats@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:avstats@infrastructure.gov.au).



# Definitions

Term	Definition
Advertising	Includes skywriting and banner towing advertising.
Aerobatics	Aerobatic flight involves manoeuvres intentionally performed by an aircraft involving an abrupt change in its attitude, an abnormal attitude, or an abnormal variation in speed.
Agricultural mustering	Aerial stock mustering involving the direct use of aircraft for the movement of livestock.
Agricultural spreading / spraying	Flying involving the spreading/spraying of chemicals, seeds, and fertilisers. This includes flights to and from the spread / spray area.
Air Ambulance	Operations as an aerial ambulance for the transport of ill or injured persons (excluding Angel flights).
Commercial Air Transport	An aircraft operation involving the transport of passengers, cargo or mail for remuneration or hire.
Community service flights	Flights that are provided on a voluntary basis for public benefit. This includes non-emergency flights provided as part of an organised voluntary or charitable activity. This does not include flights where a pilot provides a flight to a friend or family member.
Construction – other	Includes all flying for construction purposes, excluding sling loads.
Construction – sling loads	Flying using sling loads for construction purposes.
Domestic RPT	Scheduled operations of domestic airlines operating within Australia.
Ferry	Flying associated with an aircraft delivery or movement to a location for maintenance, hire or other planned use.
Fire fighting	Flying involving the use of aircraft to combat fires (e.g. spotting, water bombing etc.). This includes flights to and from the fire area.
General Aviation	An aircraft operation other than a commercial air transport operation.
Glider towing	Includes the use of aircraft for glider towing.
Instructional flying	Flying involving training for the issue or renewal of a licence or rating, aircraft type endorsement or conversion training. Includes solo navigation exercises conducted as part of a course of applied flying training.

Term	Definition
International	Scheduled operations of international airlines operating into/out of Australia.
Joyflights / sightseeing charters	Flying involving the carriage of passengers for joyflights or sightseeing purposes that take off and land at the same location.
Non- scheduled Freight only	Flying involving the carriage of cargo by the aircraft operator or his/her employees for hire or reward (but excluding scheduled airline operations).
Observation and patrol	Flying involving the use of aircraft for aerial observations and patrol. Includes coastal surveillance.
Other Aerial work	Includes aerial spotting (stock, fish, etc.), cloud seeding, etc.
Other agriculture	Other agricultural activity including aerial culling and baiting.
Other commercial air transport	Includes on-demand charter and all other commercial air transport not classified elsewhere.
Other flying	Flying not classified elsewhere.
Other sport and pleasure flying	Other sport and pleasure flying not classified elsewhere.
Other Surveying	Flying involving the use of aircraft for surveying not classified elsewhere. Includes geophysical surveys.
Own-use business travel	Business flying not through a hire or reward arrangement.
Parachute dropping	Flying associated with the dropping of parachutists.
Passenger transport charters	Flying involving the carriage of passengers by the aircraft operator or his/her employees for hire or reward (but excluding scheduled airline operations).
Photography	All aerial photographic work.
Pipeline or powerline surveying	Aerial inspection patrols along pipelines or powerlines.
Pleasure and personal transport	Flying for private pleasure, or personal transport not associated with a business or profession.
Policing	Flying involving the use of aircraft in police operations, includes traffic control, ground support, high-speed car pursuits, observation, air patrol etc.
Scheduled Freight only	Scheduled operations carrying freight only.
Search and rescue	Includes any search missions, as well as evacuation or rescue work.
Test	Flying associated with the testing of an aircraft.

# Aviation Statistics publications

These publications and data releases are available in electronic format, and can be downloaded free of charge from the Department's web site at <https://bitre.gov.au/statistics/aviation/index.aspx>

## *Airline On Time Performance*

Produced: Monthly, calendar and financial years.

Contents: Domestic airline on time performance by airline, route and airport.

## *Airport Traffic Data*

Produced: Financial year, monthly for top 20 airports.

Contents: Time series of airport activity for the international, domestic and regional RPT sectors.

## *Australian Aircraft Activity*

Produced: Calendar year.

Contents: Commercial Air Transport and General Aviation flying activity; hours flown and landings by category of operation and aircraft type; numbers of aircraft by type.

## *Australian Air Distances*

Produced: As required.

Contents: Air distances covering routes operated on commercial services.

## *Australian Domestic Aviation Activity*

Produced: Monthly, calendar and financial year.

Contents: Data supplied by Australian airlines operating over Australian flight stages; traffic on top competitive city pairs and industry totals.

## **Avline**

Produced: Financial year.

Contents: Overview of Australian aviation industry including traffic data, air fares, and airport charges.

## ***Domestic Airfares indexes***

Produced: Monthly.

Contents: Time series of fare indexes covering business, full economy, restricted economy and best discount fares.

## ***International Airline Activity***

Produced: Monthly, calendar and financial year.

Contents: Comprehensive data on all international services to/from Australia. International passenger and freight traffic; operator market shares; city pair data; industry analysis.









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