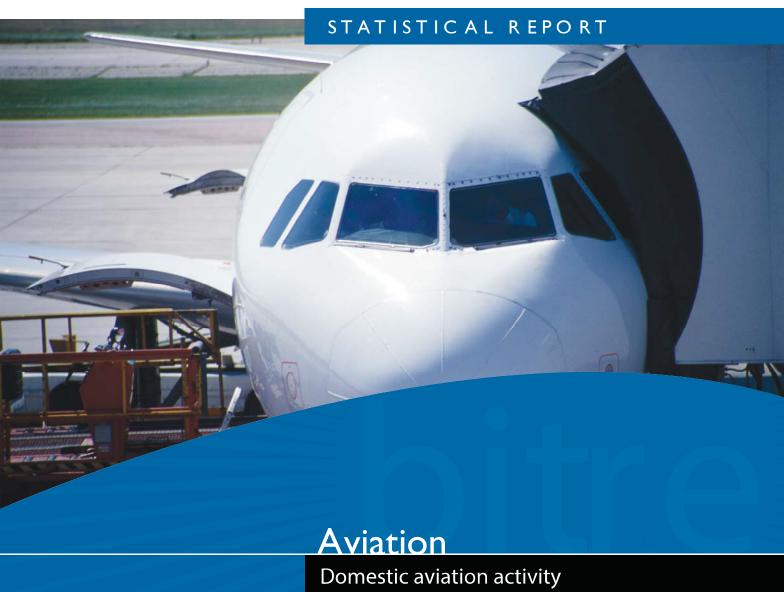


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Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics



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FOREWORD

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

The data cover revenue passengers carried by Australian-registered operators of scheduled regular public transport services over Australian flight stages and fixed-wing charter operators. These estimates include passengers carried between domestic airports on international flights operated by these carriers. The passengers carried refer to traffic on board by stages.

Individual routes shown are restricted to those exceeding 8 000 passengers per month where two or more airlines operate in competition. However, from November 2021 the major airlines (Qantas Group, Virgin Australia and Rex Airlines) have agreed to publication of the top 35 routes based on pre-COVID activity (December 2019) whether or not they currently meet the above criteria. With these approvals, there were 56 routes published for the month of December 2021 compared to 45 published in December 2020.

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

Detailed information on individual routes can be found in the RPT summary pages 4-8 of this publication.

The top ten airports in terms of RPT passenger movements are shown on page 10.

Data on domestic RPT cargo movements at the top five cargo airports are provided on page 11. The table includes cargo carried on passenger flights operated by the Qantas Group (including Jetstar), Virgin Australia, Air North, Rex Airlines 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 12-21.

Domestic RPT passenger movements at regional airports are presented on pages 22-23.

Tables providing estimates of domestic charter aviation activity are shown on page 24. BITRE confidentiality standards restrict publication of detailed estimates for individual Australian airports, with the exception of Perth Airport. For the month of December Alliance Airlines charter and RPT data have been estimated and included in this publication.

A list of definitions can be found on page 25.

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

The domestic aviation industry continued to recover in December 2021. However, revenue passenger numbers were still 51.6 per cent below the pre-COVID-19 level in December 2019.

There were 2.82 million passengers carried on Australian domestic commercial aviation (including charter operations) in December 2021, compared to 2.47 million in December 2020 and 5.48 million in December 2019.

For the month of December 2021, there were 45.1 thousand aircraft trips, compared to 36.2 thousand in December 2020 and 56.2 thousand in December 2019.

2.54 million passengers were carried on RPT flights in December 2021, compared to 2.18 million reported in December 2020 and 5.26 million reported in December 2019.

For the year ending December 2021 there were 23.52 million RPT passengers, an increase of 20.9 per cent on the year ending December 2020 and a decrease of 61.7 per cent on the year ending December 2019.

RPT revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) performed were 2.67 billion for the month, compared with 2.54 billion in December 2020.

Capacity, measured by available seat kilometres (ASKs), increased to 4.79 billion in December 2021 compared to 3.86 billion in December 2020.

The industry wide load factor (RPKs/ASKs) decreased from 65.8 per cent in December 2020 to 55.7 per cent in December 2021. The highest load factor (77.2 per cent) was recorded on the Ballina – Sydney route while the lowest load factor (22.3 per cent) was recorded on the Melbourne – Perth route.

For the month of December 2021, Melbourne – Sydney was Australia's busiest RPT route with 416.9 thousand passengers, followed by Brisbane – Melbourne with 108.0 thousand passengers and Brisbane – Cairns with 102.0 thousand passengers.

Melbourne was Australia's busiest domestic airport with 978.3 thousand passenger movements in December 2021, followed by Sydney with 957.1 thousand passenger movements and Brisbane with 759.2 thousand passenger movements.

Total cargo movements at Australian airports on domestic RPT flights were 37.3 thousand tonnes in December 2021, a decrease of 10.7 per cent compared with December 2020.

In December 2021, there were 1.43 million domestic passenger movements through regional airports, compared to 1.27 million in December 2020 and 2.11 million in December 2019. Most regional airports for which data is available for publishing recorded large increases in December 2021 compared to December 2020.

Fixed-wing charter operators carried 274.7 thousand passengers in December 2021, a decrease of 6.6 per cent on December 2020. Perth Airport accounted for 37.7 per cent of all charter passengers in Australia.

TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of monthly commercial aviation activity

	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	2.47	2.82	13.9
Aircraft trips (000s)	36.3	45.1	24.1

Note: Regular Public Transport and charter aviation activity

Helicopter, joyflights and sightseeing charter flights not included.

RPT NETWORK

Summary of monthly RPT activity

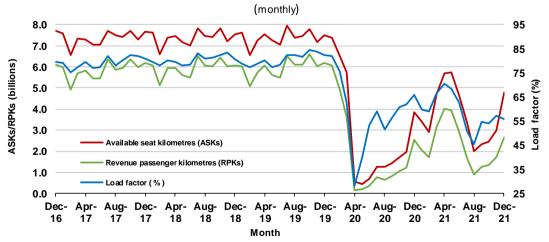
	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	2.18	2.54	16.7
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	2.54	2.67	4.9
Available seats (millions)	3.41	4.52	32.7
Available seat kilometres (billions)	3.86	4.79	23.9
Load factor %	65.8	55.7	- 10.1 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	30.3	39.5	30.1

^{*} percentage point difference

Domestic RPT passenger traffic



RPT Network utilisation



TOTAL NETWORK

Summary of annual commercial aviation activity

	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	22.61	26.88	18.9
Aircraft trips (000s)	347.7	430.5	23.8

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

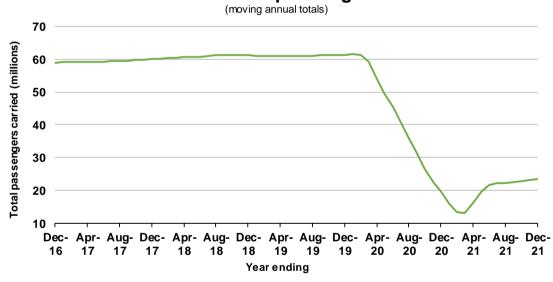
RPT NETWORK

Summary of annual RPT activity

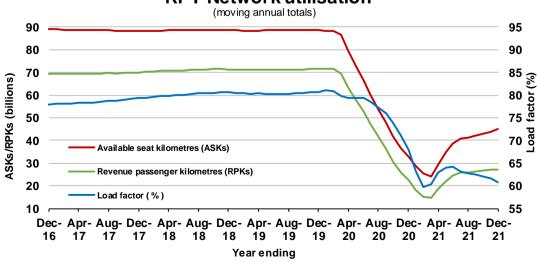
	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Total passengers carried (millions)	19.45	23.52	20.9
Revenue passenger kilometres (billions)	22.30	27.30	22.4
Available seats (millions)	29.14	39.17	34.4
Available seat kilometres (billions)	32.86	44.93	36.7
Load factor %	67.9	60.8	-7.1 *
Aircraft trips (000s)	282.6	367.0	29.9

^{*} percentage point difference

Domestic RPT passenger traffic



RPT Network utilisation



TOP COMPETITIVE ROUTES

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

	City-Pair	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	2 249.8	2 119.8	-5.8
2	Brisbane - Sydney	1 299.7	1 093.2	-15.9
3	Brisbane - Cairns	728.8	1 012.5	38.9
4	Gold Coast - Melbourne	514.3	794.7	54.5
5	Brisbane - Melbourne	928.8	787.4	-15.2
6	Gold Coast - Sydney	711.3	755.2	6.2
7	Brisbane - Townsville	509.6	689.1	35.2
8	Adelaide - Melbourne	614.1	641.0	4.4
9	Brisbane - Mackay	395.4	536.5	35.7
10	Adelaide - Sydney	589.4	524.7	-11.0
11	Hobart - Melbourne	466.4	459.3	-1.5
12	Adelaide - Brisbane	362.4	451.4	24.6
13	Karratha - Perth	272.3	420.9	54.6
14	Ballina - Sydney	354.4	408.7	15.3
15	Broome - Perth	224.5	375.6	67.3
16	Brisbane - Rockhampton	255.4	361.4	41.5
17	Perth - Port Hedland	209.7	360.2	71.7
18	Adelaide - Perth	167.5	318.6	90.2
19	Newman - Perth	166.8	318.1	90.7
20	Perth - Sydney	437.7	313.7	-28.3
21	Cairns - Melbourne	161.8	312.7	93.2
22	Launceston - Melbourne	273.7	304.9	11.4
23	Brisbane - Canberra	249.1	292.7	17.5
23 24				-4.8
	Brisbane - Perth	301.6	287.2	
25	Canberra - Melbourne	275.3	280.7	2.0
26	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	134.4	270.6	101.4
27	Melbourne - Perth	552.2	261.4	-52.7
28	Brisbane - Darwin	164.2	260.5	58.6
29	Brisbane - Hobart	108.0	257.5	138.5
30	Hobart - Sydney	236.5	256.5	8.5
31	Kalgoorlie - Perth	157.4	254.7	61.8
32	Cairns - Sydney	249.1	249.8	0.3
33	Brisbane - Proserpine	165.2	244.2	47.8
34	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	155.9	227.2	45.7
35	Brisbane - Newcastle	189.6	212.3	12.0
36	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	110.0	205.2	86.5
37	Canberra - Sydney		166.5	NA
38	Melbourne - Newcastle	128.3	157.8	23.0
39	Brisbane - Launceston		143.7	NA
40	Adelaide - Gold Coast	86.3	143.2	65.9
41	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	89.2	141.9	59.0
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	105.8	140.5	32.8
43	Brisbane - Emerald	98.8	136.8	38.5
44	Launceston - Sydney	103.5	123.9	19.7
45	Darwin - Melbourne		121.8	NA
46	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	108.2	113.0	4.5
47	Brisbane - Mount Isa	88.4	108.0	22.2
48	Adelaide - Cairns		107.3	NA
49	Ballina - Melbourne	••	106.9	NA
50	Adelaide - Hobart	•-	104.4	NA
51	Adelaide - Canberra	68.8	87.2	26.7
52	Dubbo - Sydney		69.5	NA
53	Albury - Sydney	••	65.4	NA NA
54	Melbourne - Mildura		63.2	NA
55	Port Macquarie - Sydney	••	54.5	NA NA
56	Cairns - Gold Coast	••	J 4 .J	NA NA
55	Canno Cola Coast			INA
			23 516.8	20.9

^{..} Data not available for release.

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

1 2 3 4 5	Melbourne - Sydney Brisbane - Melbourne Brisbane - Cairns Brisbane - Sydney	183.0 132.6	416.9 108.0	127.8 -18.5
3 4	Brisbane - Cairns		108.0	
4				
	Brispane - Sygney	92.6	102.0	10.2
5	, ,	120.9	98.2	-18.8
	Adelaide - Melbourne	62.7	88.9	41.8
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	78.6	88.0	11.9
7	Ballina - Sydney	52.9	71.7	35.7
8	Gold Coast - Sydney	54.9	70.0	27.4
9	Adelaide - Sydney	49.3	68.3	38.6
10	Brisbane - Townsville	61.8	65.9	6.6
11	Canberra - Melbourne	27.0	50.3	86.6
12	Brisbane - Mackay	45.6	49.8	9.3
13	Hobart - Melbourne	54.5	44.4	-18.6
14	Adelaide - Brisbane	32.2	40.1	24.7
15	Karratha - Perth	29.1	35.3	21.3
16	Brisbane - Hobart	26.8	34.5	28.7
17	Brisbane - Rockhampton	30.6	33.9	10.8
18	Ballina - Melbourne		33.3	NA
19	Perth - Port Hedland	24.3	31.5	29.8
20	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	24.8	31.5	26.7
21	Brisbane - Perth	42.6	30.2	-29.1
22	Launceston - Melbourne	38.1	29.9	-21.7
23	Melbourne - Newcastle	22.5	28.9	28.0
24	Cairns - Melbourne	25.5	28.0	10.2
25	Hobart - Sydney	30.0	27.7	-7.8
26	Brisbane - Proserpine	21.7	27.3	25.5
27	Broome - Perth	24.3	25.9	6.5
28	Newman - Perth	24.4	24.8	1.6
29	Brisbane - Canberra	38.9	24.7	-36.4
30	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	17.9	23.3	30.1
31	Cairns - Sydney	18.5	22.6	22.0
32	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	22.3	22.4	0.1
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	18.1	21.6	19.6
34	Brisbane - Darwin	24.3	21.1	-13.4
35	Canberra - Sydney		20.5	NA
36	Brisbane - Launceston		20.0	NA
37	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	11.0	18.7	69.9
38	Launceston - Sydney	17.9	14.5	-19.1
39	Cairns - Gold Coast		13.8	NA
40	Adelaide - Hobart		12.9	NA
41	Adelaide - Gold Coast	10.4	12.9	23.7
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	11.7	12.3	5.2
43	Brisbane - Newcastle	31.4	12.3	-60.9
44	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	9.3	12.2	31.0
45	Brisbane - Emerald	9.7	10.8	11.7
46	Darwin - Melbourne		10.8	NA
47	Brisbane - Mount Isa	9.2	9.7	4.7
48	Adelaide - Canberra	9.4	8.8	-6.3
49	Port Macquarie - Sydney		8.8	NA
50	Melbourne - Mildura		8.8	NA
51	Adelaide - Cairns		8.7	NA
52	Dubbo - Sydney		8.4	NA
53	Albury - Sydney		8.3	NA
54	Adelaide - Perth	8.2	5.1	-38.2
55	Perth - Sydney	18.3	4.3	-76.7
56	Melbourne - Perth	43.2	4.0	-90.8
	Total domestic network	2 178.1	2 542.3	16.7

^{..} Data not available for release.

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

	City-Pair	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
1	Melbourne - Sydney	310.0	632.1	103.9
2	Brisbane - Melbourne	169.5	182.5	7.6
3	Brisbane - Cairns	113.5	159.8	40.8
4	Brisbane - Sydney	192.2	189.1	-1.6
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	88.8	185.0	108.3
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	96.1	145.9	51.8
7	Ballina - Sydney	77.9	92.9	19.3
8	Gold Coast - Sydney	82.1	133.7	62.9
9	Adelaide - Sydney	82.3	125.7	52.8
10	Brisbane - Townsville	84.8	104.1	22.8
11	Canberra - Melbourne	39.6	82.8	108.9
12	Brisbane - Mackay	67.8	82.4	21.5
13	Hobart - Melbourne	84.5	74.8	-11.4
14	Adelaide - Brisbane	47.7	74.5	56.3
15	Karratha - Perth	61.7	60.6	-1.7
16	Brisbane - Hobart	35.4	54.1	52.8
17	Brisbane - Rockhampton	48.9	62.4	27.7
18	Ballina - Melbourne		47.1	NA
19	Perth - Port Hedland	47.8	53.9	12.9
20	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	30.1	58.6	94.9
21	Brisbane - Perth	53.7	54.3	1.1
22	Launceston - Melbourne	55.6	54.2	-2.4
23	Melbourne - Newcastle	37.9	47.2	24.5
24	Cairns - Melbourne	33.9	51.7	52.5
25	Hobart - Sydney	59.5	52.7	-11.5
26	Brisbane - Proserpine	27.9	39.6	41.9
27	Broome - Perth	41.8	45.2	8.1
28	Newman - Perth	57.4	53.6	-6.6
29	Brisbane - Canberra	52.2	42.7	-18.3
30	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	28.5	49.6	74.1
31	Cairns - Sydney	36.3	48.4	33.4
32	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	33.5	36.5	9.1
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	33.3	36.5	9.6
34	Brisbane - Darwin	31.6	31.0	-2.0
35	Canberra - Sydney		35.3	NA NA
36	Brisbane - Launceston		33.3	NA
37	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	 17.7	33.7	89.9
38	Launceston - Sydney	31.8	30.5	-4.2
39	Cairns - Gold Coast	01.0	22.5	NA
40	Adelaide - Hobart	•	28.6	NA
41	Adelaide - Gold Coast	16.5	25.6	54.5
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	20.7	26.2	26.4
43	Brisbane - Newcastle	51.7	29.6	-42.8
44	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	13.7	22.9	66.8
45	Brisbane - Emerald	20.7	20.7	-0.1
	Darwin - Melbourne	20.1		NA
46 47	Brisbane - Mount Isa	19.0	17.2 18.9	-0.7
48	Adelaide - Canberra	15.4	19.0	23.6
49		13.4	18.3	
	Port Macquarie - Sydney Melbourne - Mildura	••		NA NA
50 51	Adelaide - Cairns	••	14.8 20.8	NA NA
51 52		••		NA NA
	Dubbo - Sydney	••	17.0	NA NA
53 54	Albury - Sydney	40.0	17.3	NA
54 55	Adelaide - Perth	18.6	13.9	-25.6
55 56	Perth - Sydney Molhourne Borth	40.6	14.0	-65.6
56	Melbourne - Perth	55.4	17.9	-67.7
	Total domestic network	3 405.7	4 520.4	32.7

^{..} Data not available for release.

Table 4: Load factors (%) — monthly activity

	City-Pair	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Point diff
1	Melbourne - Sydney	59.0	65.9	6.9
2	Brisbane - Melbourne	78.2	59.2	-19.0
3	Brisbane - Cairns	81.6	63.8	-17.8
4	Brisbane - Sydney	62.9	51.9	-11.0
5	Adelaide - Melbourne	70.5	48.0	-22.5
6	Gold Coast - Melbourne	81.8	60.3	-21.5
7	Ballina - Sydney	67.8	77.2	9.4
8	Gold Coast - Sydney	66.9	52.3	-14.6
9	Adelaide - Sydney	59.9	54.4	-5.5
10	Brisbane - Townsville	72.8	63.3	-9.5
11	Canberra - Melbourne	68.1	60.8	-7.3
12	Brisbane - Mackay	67.2	60.5	-6.7
13	Hobart - Melbourne	64.6	59.3	-5.3
14	Adelaide - Brisbane	67.5	53.9	-13.6
15	Karratha - Perth	47.2	58.3	11.1
16	Brisbane - Hobart	75.7	63.8	-11.9
17	Brisbane - Rockhampton	62.5	54.3	-8.2
18	Ballina - Melbourne		70.7	NA
19	Perth - Port Hedland	50.8	58.4	7.6
20	Melbourne - Sunshine Coast	82.5	53.6	-28.9
21	Brisbane - Perth	79.4	55.7	-23.7
22	Launceston - Melbourne	68.6	55.1	-13.5
23	Melbourne - Newcastle	59.5	61.1	1.6
24	Cairns - Melbourne	75.0	54.2	-20.8
25	Hobart - Sydney	50.4	52.5	2.1
26	Brisbane - Proserpine	77.8	68.9	-8.9
27	Broome - Perth	58.2	57.4	-0.8
28	Newman - Perth	42.6	46.3	3.7
29	Brisbane - Canberra	74.4	57.9	-16.5
30	Sunshine Coast - Sydney	63.0	47.0	-16.0
31	Cairns - Sydney	51.1	46.7	-4.4
32	Brisbane - Hamilton Island	66.8	61.3	-5.5
33	Kalgoorlie - Perth	54.3	59.3	5.0
34	Brisbane - Darwin	77.1	68.1	-9.0
35	Canberra - Sydney		58.0	NA
36	Brisbane - Launceston		60.3	NA
37	Coffs Harbour - Sydney	61.9	55.4	-6.5
38	Launceston - Sydney	56.2	47.4	-8.8
39	Cairns - Gold Coast		61.4	NA
40	Adelaide - Hobart		45.3	NA
41	Adelaide - Gold Coast	63.1	50.5	-12.6
42	Brisbane - Gladstone	56.4	47.0	-9.4
43	Brisbane - Newcastle	60.8	41.5	-19.3
44	Adelaide - Port Lincoln	67.5	53.1	-14.4
45	Brisbane - Emerald	46.9	52.5	5.6
46	Darwin - Melbourne		62.7	NA
47	Brisbane - Mount Isa	48.7	51.3	2.6
48	Adelaide - Canberra	61.3	46.4	-14.9
49	Port Macquarie - Sydney	-	48.1	NA
50	Melbourne - Mildura		59.3	NA
51	Adelaide - Cairns		41.5	NA
52	Dubbo - Sydney		49.3	NA
53	Albury - Sydney		47.9	NA
54	Adelaide - Perth	44.1	36.7	-7.4
55	Perth - Sydney	45.0	30.4	-14.6
56	Melbourne - Perth	77.9	22.3	-55.6

^{..} Data not available for release.

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

City-Pa	air	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
1 Melbou	rne - Sydney	1 910	3 754	96.5
2 Brisbar	ne - Melbourne	1 138	1 233	8.3
3 Brisbar	ne - Cairns	727	982	35.1
4 Brisbar	ne - Sydney	1 301	1 290	-0.8
5 Adelaid	e - Melbourne	605	1 144	89.1
6 Gold C	oast - Melbourne	504	757	50.2
7 Ballina	- Sydney	508	645	27.0
8 Gold C	oast - Sydney	484	774	59.9
	e - Sydney	538	783	45.5
	ne - Townsville	522	654	25.3
11 Canbei	ra - Melbourne	303	577	90.4
12 Brisbar	ne - Mackay	486	538	10.7
	- Melbourne	489	453	-7.4
14 Adelaid	e - Brisbane	299	455	52.2
	a - Perth	384	381	-0.8
	ne - Hobart	218	334	53.2
	ne - Rockhampton	476	549	15.3
	- Melbourne		264	NA
	Port Hedland	 340	359	5.6
	rne - Sunshine Coast	176	326	85.2
	ne - Perth	309	302	-2.3
	ston - Melbourne	481	464	-3.5
	rne - Newcastle	206	285	38.3
	- Melbourne	172	254	47.7
	- Sydney	346	300	-13.3
	ne - Proserpine	167	268	60.5
	e - Perth	291	278	-4.5
-	nn - Perth	353	331	-6.2
	ne - Canberra	382	277	-27.5
	ne Coast - Sydney	174	276	58.6
	- Sydney	204	252	23.5
	ne - Hamilton Island	210	209	-0.5
•	rlie - Perth	240	260	8.3
	ne - Darwin	196	198	1.0
	ra - Sydney		664	NA
	ne - Launceston	••	195	NA
	arbour - Sydney	242	471	94.6
	ston - Sydney	186	176	-5.4
39 Cairns	- Gold Coast		124	NA
	e - Hobart		192	NA
41 Adelaid	e - Gold Coast	92	156	69.6
42 Brisbar	ne - Gladstone	272	302	11.0
43 Brisbar	ne - Newcastle	343	219	-36.2
44 Adelaid	e - Port Lincoln	346	578	67.1
45 Brisbar	ne - Emerald	316	304	-3.8
46 Darwin	- Melbourne		94	NA
47 Brisbar	ne - Mount Isa	119	177	48.7
48 Adelaid	e - Canberra	98	109	11.2
	cquarie - Sydney		370	NA
	rne - Mildura		330	NA
	e - Cairns		130	NA
	- Sydney		349	NA NA
	Sydney		300	NA NA
-	e - Perth	155	118	-23.9
55 Perth -		219	107	-51.1
	rne - Perth	428	226	-47.2
JO IVICIDOU	IIIO I OIUI	720	220	-41.2
Total d	omestic network	30 349	39 499	30.1

⁽a) Includes RPT cargo flights

Data not available for release.

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TOP TEN AIRPORTS - PASSENGER MOVEMENTS

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

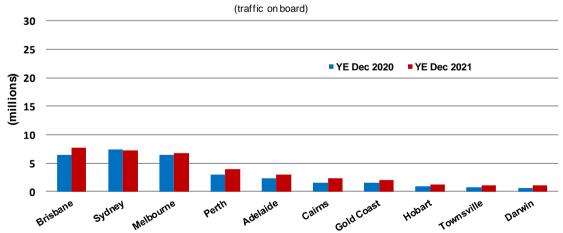
	Airport	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change	% of Total
1	Melbourne	739.8	978.3	32.2	19.2
2	Sydney	659.1	957.1	45.2	18.8
3	Brisbane	802.0	759.2	-5.3	14.9
4	Adelaide	220.7	298.0	35.0	5.9
5	Perth	304.0	249.4	-18.0	4.9
6	Cairns	197.1	215.9	9.5	4.2
7	Gold Coast	188.1	204.9	8.9	4.0
8	Hobart	131.3	139.7	6.4	2.7
9	Canberra	112.6	116.4	3.3	2.3
10	Townsville	94.6	106.7	12.8	2.1
	Total top ten airports	3 449.4	4 025.5	16.7	79.2
	Total domestic network	4 356.3	5 084.6	16.7	100.0

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

	Airport	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change	% of Total
1	Brisbane	6 387.6	7 637.3	19.6	16.2
2	Sydney	7 462.5	7 177.9	-3.8	15.3
3	Melbourne	6 501.5	6 768.5	4.1	14.4
4	Perth	2 977.4	3 854.3	29.5	8.2
5	Adelaide	2 348.6	3 034.4	29.2	6.5
6	Cairns	1 588.7	2 312.5	45.6	4.9
7	Gold Coast	1 529.4	2 038.8	33.3	4.3
8	Hobart	879.7	1 261.3	43.4	2.7
9	Townsville	766.9	1 097.9	43.2	2.3
10	Darwin	657.4	1 088.9	65.6	2.3
	Total top ten airports	31 099.7	36 271.8	16.6	77.1
	Total domestic network	38 891.1	47 033.6	20.9	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

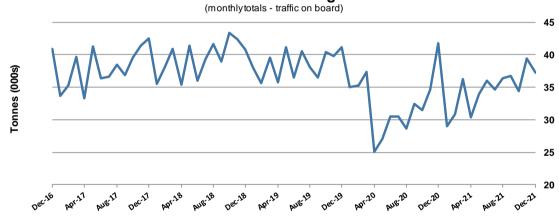
	Airport	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change	% of Total
1	Melbourne	11.3	9.4	-16.8	25.2
2	Sydney	9.3	8.7	-5.8	23.5
3	Brisbane	7.4	6.5	-12.8	17.4
4	Perth	4.0	3.3	-16.0	8.9
5	Adelaide	2.5	2.6	4.6	7.0
	Total top five airports	34.4	30.5	-11.3	81.9
	Total domestic network	41.7	37.3	-10.7	100.0

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

	Airport	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change	% of Total
1	Melbourne	101.1	105.5	4.3	25.4
2	Sydney	84.4	96.8	14.7	23.3
3	Brisbane	68.3	68.1	-0.2	16.4
4	Perth	38.1	38.8	2.0	9.4
_ 5	Adelaide	23.8	25.9	8.9	6.2
	Total top five airports	315.7	335.2	6.2	80.7
	Total domestic network	389.2	415.4	6.7	100.0

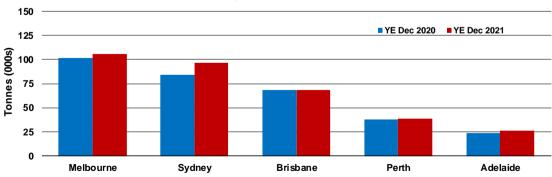
Note: Airport cargo tonnes are the sum of cargo tonnes on arrivals and departures at each airport.

Total domestic network-cargo movement



Top five airports, cargo movements

(Domestic cargo traffic - traffic on board)



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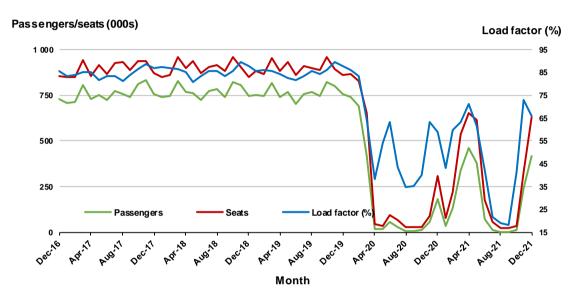
TOP TEN ROUTES

1. Melbourne - Sydney

Monthly data

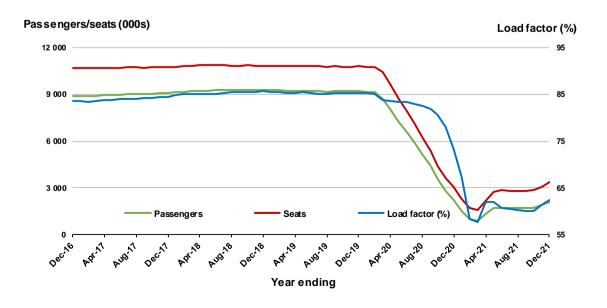
	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	183.0	416.9	127.8
Seats (000s)	310.0	632.1	103.9
Load factor %	59.0	65.9	6.9 *
Aircraft trips	1 910	3 754	96.5

^{*} percentage point difference



	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	2 249.8	2 119.8	-5.8
Seats (000s)	3 072.2	3 394.1	10.5
Load factor %	73.3	62.5	-10.8 *
Aircraft trips	19 050	21 589	13.3

^{*} percentage point difference

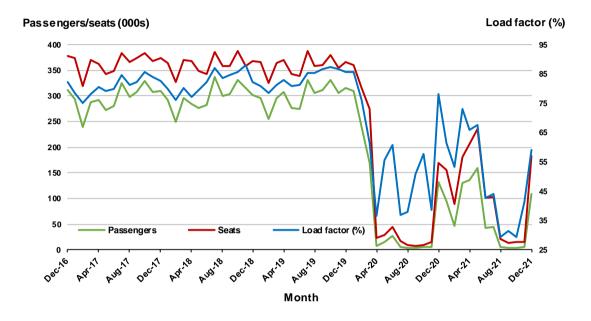


2. Brisbane - Melbourne

Monthly data

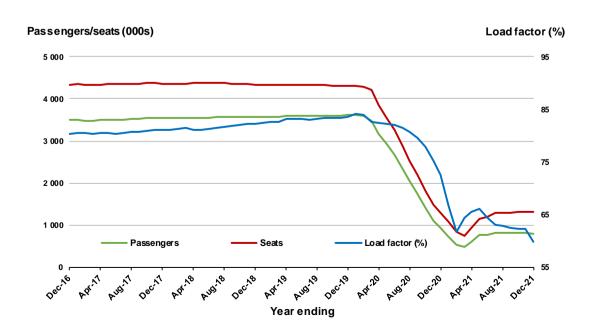
	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	132.6	108.0	- 18.5
Seats (000s)	169.5	182.5	7.6
Load factor %	78.2	59.2	-19.0 *
Aircraft trips	1 138	1 233	8.3

^{*} percentage point difference



	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	928.8	787.4	- 15.2
Seats (000s)	1 279.1	1 317.7	3.0
Load factor %	72.6	59.8	-12.9 *
Aircraft trips	8 649	8 975	3.8

^{*} percentage point difference

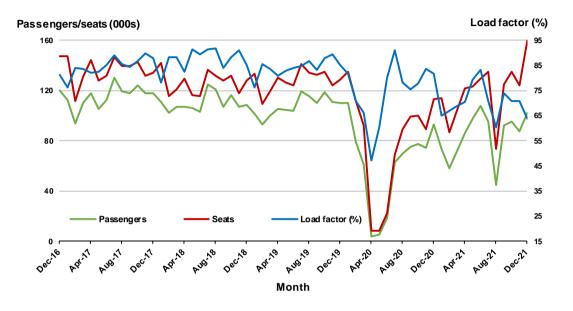


3. Brisbane - Cairns

Monthly data

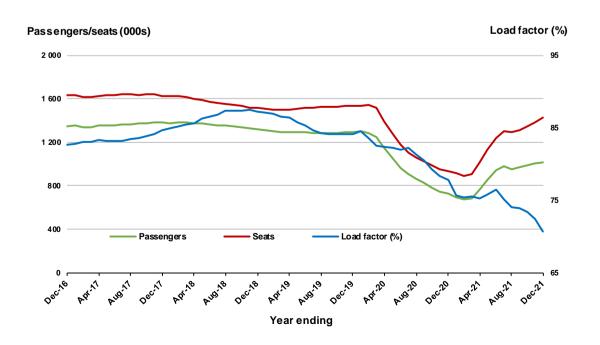
	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	92.6	102.0	10.2
Seats (000s)	113.5	159.8	40.8
Load factor %	81.6	63.8	-17.8 *
Aircraft trips	727	982	35.1

^{*} percentage point difference



	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	728.8	1 012.5	38.9
Seats (000s)	937.1	1 431.3	52.7
Load factor %	77.8	70.7	-7.0 *
Aircraft trips	6 791	8 975	32.2

^{*} percentage point difference

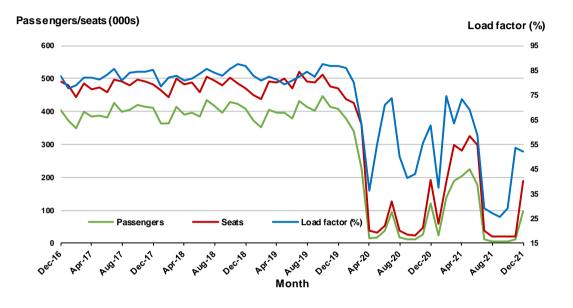


4. Brisbane - Sydney

Monthly data

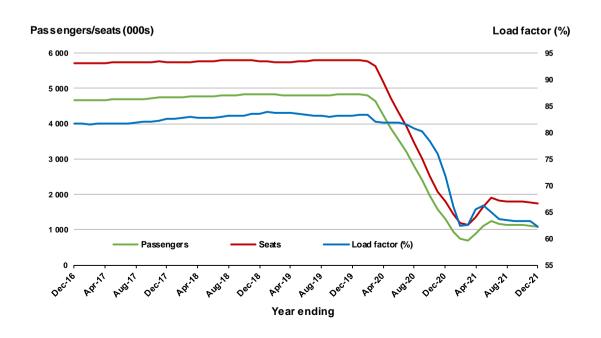
	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	120.9	98.2	- 18.8
Seats (000s)	192.2	189.1	- 1.6
Load factor %	62.9	51.9	-11.0 *
Aircraft trips	1 301	1 290	-0.8

^{*} percentage point difference



	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	1 299.7	1 093.2	- 15.9
Seats (000s)	1 809.5	1 758.3	- 2.8
Load factor %	71.8	62.2	-9.6 *
Aircraft trips	12 608	12 264	- 2.7

^{*} percentage point difference

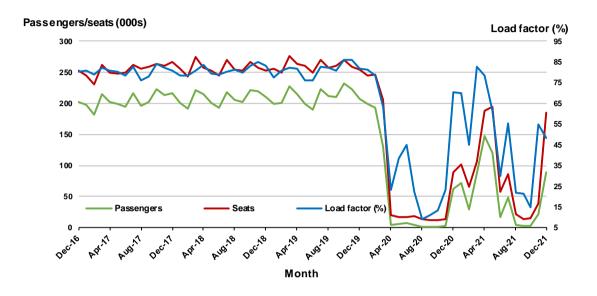


5. Adelaide - Melbourne

Monthly data

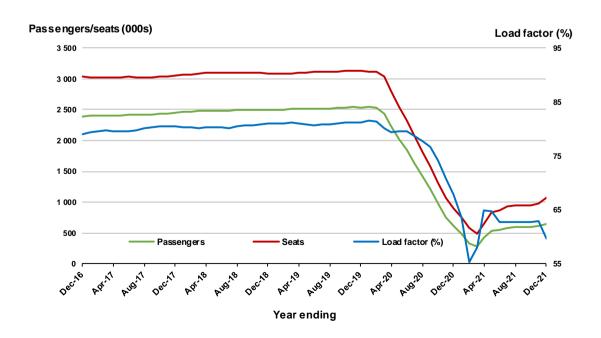
	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	62.7	88.9	41.8
Seats (000s)	88.8	185.0	108.3
Load factor %	70.5	48.0	-22.5 *
Aircraft trips	605	1 144	89.1

^{*} percentage point difference



	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	614.1	641.0	4.4
Seats (000s)	906.4	1 073.9	18.5
Load factor %	67.7	59.7	-8.1 *
Aircraft trips	6 356	7 198	13.2

^{*} percentage point difference

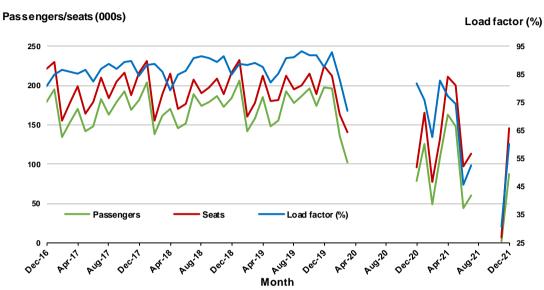


6. Gold Coast - Melbourne (a)

Monthly data

	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	78.6	88.0	11.9
Seats (000s)	96.1	145.9	51.8
Load factor %	81.8	60.3	-21.5 *
Aircraft trips	504	757	50.2

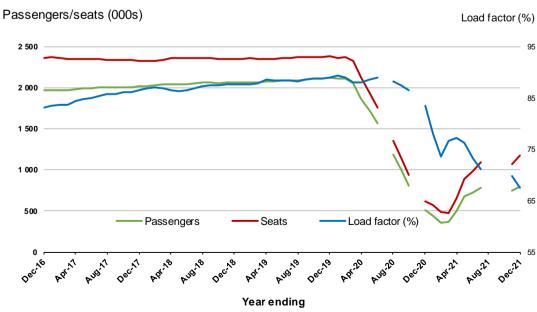
^{*} percentage point difference



(a) April to November 2020 and August to November 2021 data not available for release

	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	514.3	794.7	54.5
Seats (000s)	615.5	1 175.4	91.0
Load factor %	83.6	67.6	-15.9 *
Aircraft trips	3 260	6 269	92.3

^{*} percentage point difference



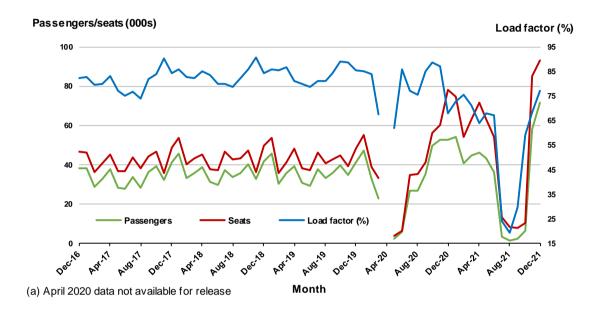
(a) April to November 2020 and August to November 2021 moving annual totals are not available for release

7. Ballina - Sydney (a)

Monthly data

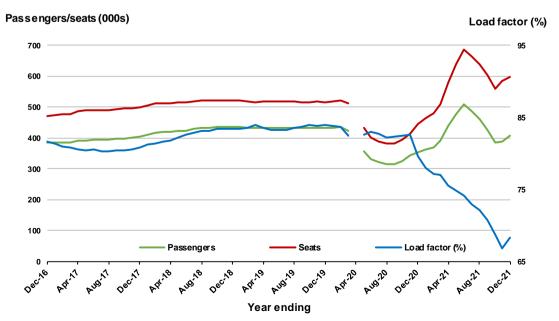
	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	52.9	71.7	35.7
Seats (000s)	77.9	92.9	19.3
Load factor %	67.8	77.2	9.4 *
Aircraft trips	508	645	27.0

^{*} percentage point difference



gg	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	354.4	408.7	15.3
` ,	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
Seats (000s)	444.9	598.6	34.6
Load factor %	79.7	68.3	-11.4 *
Aircraft trips	3 098	4 333	39.9

^{*} percentage point difference



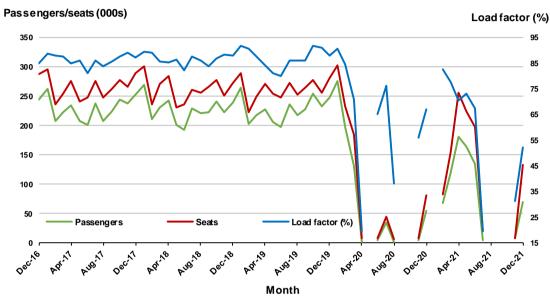
(a) April 2020 moving annual total is not available for release

8. Gold Coast - Sydney (a)

Monthly data

	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	54.9	70.0	27.4
Seats (000s)	82.1	133.7	62.9
Load factor %	66.9	52.3	-14.6 *
Aircraft trips	484	774	59.9

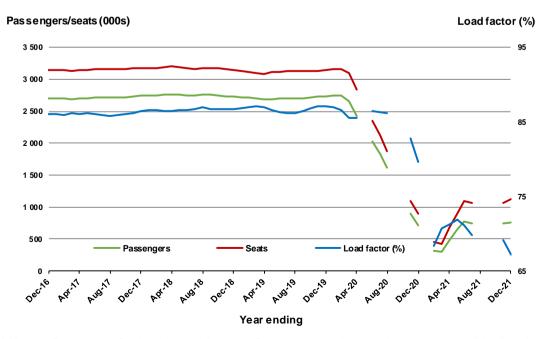
^{*} percentage point difference



(a) May and September to October 2020 and August to October 2021 data not available for release

	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	711.3	755.2	6.2
Seats (000s)	893.2	1 123.1	25.7
Load factor %	79.6	67.2	-12.4 *
Aircraft trips	5 132	6 590	28.4

^{*} percentage point difference



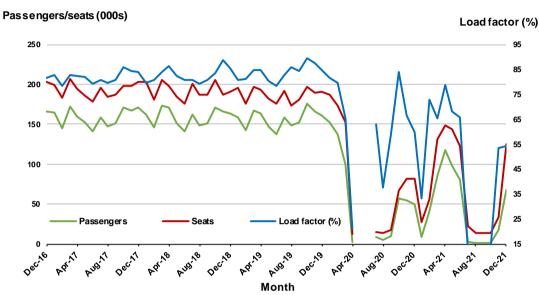
(a) May and September to October 2020 and August to October 2021 moving annual totals are not available for release

9. Adelaide - Sydney (a)

Monthly data

	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	49.3	68.3	38.6
Seats (000s)	82.3	125.7	52.8
Load factor %	59.9	54.4	-5.5 *
Aircraft trips	538	783	45.5

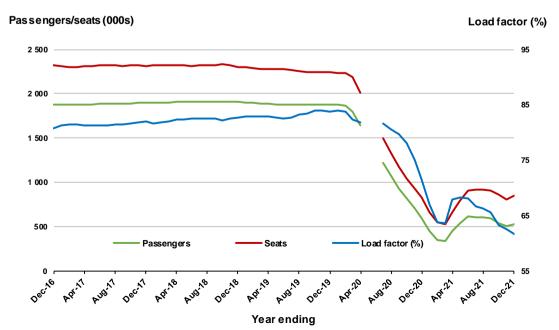
^{*} percentage point difference



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

	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	589.4	524.7	-11.0
Seats (000s)	825.2	851.8	3.2
Load factor %	71.4	61.6	-9.8 *
Aircraft trips	5 243	5 342	1.9

^{*} percentage point difference

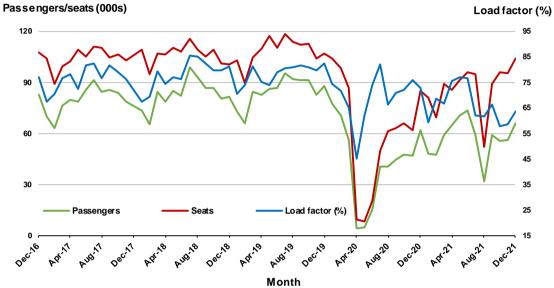


10. Brisbane - Townsville

Monthly data

	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	61.8	65.9	6.6
Seats (000s)	84.8	104.1	22.8
Load factor %	72.8	63.3	-9.5 *
Aircraft trips	522	654	25.3

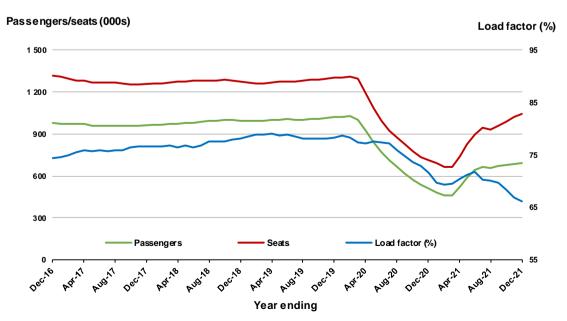
^{*} percentage point difference



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

	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Passengers carried (000s)	509.6	689.1	35.2
Seats (000s)	712.2	1 042.2	46.3
Load factor %	71.5	66.1	-5.4 *
Aircraft trips	4 756	6 309	32.7

^{*} percentage point difference



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

TOP FIFTY REGIONAL AIRPORTS

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

	Airport	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
	Cairns	197.1	215.9	9.5
2	Hobart	131.3	139.7	6.4
-	Townsville	94.6	106.7	12.8
4	Ballina	67.4	105.9	57.1
	Launceston	72.2	76.0	5.2
	Darwin	83.8	75.9	- 9.4
	Mackay	53.6	59.7	11.5
	Newcastle	63.7	46.3	- 27.3
	Rockhampton	33.3	37.0	11.2
	Karratha	29.1	35.4	21.4
	Proserpine	28.1	35.2	24.9
	Hamilton Island	28.4	31.7	11.8
	Port Hedland	24.3	31.6	30.3
	Broome	25.8	27.3	6.0
	Coffs Harbour	11.6	26.1	125.5
	Newman	24.6	24.8	0.9
	Kalgoorlie	18.1	21.6	19.6
	Mount Isa	15.1	16.1	6.5
	Paraburdoo	15.0	14.7	- 1.7
	Alice Springs	24.0	13.2	- 45.2
	Gladstone	11.7	12.3	5.0
	Port Lincoln	9.3	12.2	31.0
-	Emerald	9.7	11.6	19.6
	Dubbo	9.6	11.2	17.4
-	Mildura	5.8	10.7	83.2
	Albury	6.9	10.6	54.4
	Port Macquarie	6.4	9.9	54.0
	Thursday Island	7.9	8.2	3.5
	Wagga Wagga	5.8	7.8	33.6
	Bundaberg	6.6	7.6	15.2
	Moranbah	3.0	7.1	137.1
	Tamworth	5.4	7.0	30.6
	Weipa	5.2	6.6	27.0
	Olympic Dam	3.9	6.6	67.2
	Geraldton	5.1	6.6	28.3
	Armidale	3.6	6.2	71.4
	Hervey Bay	4.1	6.1	48.9
	Merimbula	2.4	6.0	151.3
39	Kununurra	6.2	5.6	- 8.7
40	Learmonth	5.2	5.1	- 1.5
41	Orange	3.2	5.0	55.6
	Cloncurry	1.8	4.7	160.0
43	Gove	4.9	4.4	- 9.0
44	Albany	3.5	4.4	23.2
	Esperance	3.3	4.3	29.8
46	Griffith	1.5	4.1	165.4
	King Island	4.2	4.1	- 2.4
_	Roma	3.6	4.1	12.2
49	Mount Gambier	1.6	4.0	149.1
50	Narrandera	2.2	3.9	77.8
	Total top 50 regional airports	1 194.8	1 348.6	12.9
	Total regional airports	1 274.7	1 430.1	12.2
	Total domestic network	4 356.3	5 084.6	16.7

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 Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
1	Cairns	1 588.7	2 312.5	45.6
2	Hobart	879.7	1 261.3	43.4
3	Townsville	766.9	1 097.9	43.2
4	Darwin	657.4	1 088.9	65.6
5	Mackay	455.5	647.5	42.1
6	Launceston	452.4	622.5	37.6
7	Ballina	407.3	523.4	28.5
8	Newcastle	381.4	457.1	19.9
9	Karratha	273.4	422.9	54.7
10	Broome	242.0	412.9	70.6
11	Rockhampton	275.9	400.1	45.0
	Port Hedland	213.6	361.6	69.3
13	Hamilton Island	188.8	327.2	73.3
14	Newman	167.2	319.0	90.8
15	Proserpine	205.7	305.0	48.3
16	Alice Springs	209.2	259.5	24.0
17	•	160.0	255.1	59.4
18	Paraburdoo	110.7	192.4	73.8
19	Mount Isa	146.8	186.8	27.2
20	Emerald	98.9	145.1	46.7
21	Port Lincoln	89.3	141.9	58.8
22	Gladstone	110.1	140.9	27.9
23	Coffs Harbour	124.1	140.4	13.2
24	Kununurra	56.9	106.5	87.0
25	Dubbo	82.6	99.6	20.6
26	Learmonth	57.4	93.8	63.4
27	Thursday Island	59.8	93.3	55.9
28	Olympic Dam	38.4	86.7	125.9
29	Moranbah	47.5	80.5	69.4
30	Mildura	64.4	77.2	19.8
31	Albury	65.9	76.4	15.9
32	Weipa	42.1	75.9	80.3
33	Geraldton	42.3	75.1	77.4
34	Bundaberg	56.4	72.0	27.5
35	Ayers Rock	92.4	70.2	-24.0
36	Wagga Wagga	61.3	68.3	11.4
37	Port Macquarie	61.7	66.7	8.2
38	Tamworth	55.2	57.9	5.0
39	Gove	50.4	55.3	9.7
40	Hervey Bay	42.4	51.1	20.4
41	Cloncurry	28.9	50.4	74.0
42	Roma	39.4	48.5	22.9
43	Albany	33.5	48.4	44.8
44	Whyalla	28.2	47.9	69.5
45	Esperance	31.9	46.0	43.9
46	King Island	29.2	43.4	48.8
47	Armidale	36.2	42.2	16.8
48	Groote Eylandt	16.8	41.5	146.9
49		26.0	40.4	55.6
50	Mount Gambier	24.4	39.4	61.6
	Total top 50 regional airports	9 476.6	13 776.2	45.4
	Total regional airports	10 256.4	14 702.2	43.3
	Total domestic network	38 891.1	47 033.6	20.9

Note: Airport passenger movement numbers are the sum of passenger arrivals and departures at each airport. Regional airports are defined as airports which are, according to Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), not based in Major Cities.

DOMESTIC CHARTER ACTIVITY

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

	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	294 216	274 707	-6.6
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	5 965	5 568	-6.7

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

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

	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Total domestic charter passengers	3 159 483	3 362 668	6.4
Total domestic charter aircraft trips	65 157	63 512	-2.5

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

Table 14: Domestic airports - charter activity - monthly

	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	588 432	549 414	-6.6
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	11 930	11 136	-6.7
Perth airport charter passenger movements	214 450	207 368	-3.3
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	3 779	3 774	-0.1

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

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

Table 15: Domestic airports - charter activity - annual

	YE Dec 2020	YE Dec 2021	% Change
Total domestic charter passenger movements	6 318 966	6 725 336	6.4
Total domestic charter aircraft movements	130 314	127 024	-2.5
Perth airport charter passenger movements	2 393 699	2 541 883	6.2
Perth airport charter aircraft movements	43 428	43 366	-0.1

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

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

DEFINITIONS	
Aircraft Trips	The number of flight stages. A return flight counts as two aircraft trips.
Airport Movements	Airport movements (passenger and cargo) are measured once on arrival and once on departure. Each domestic trip generates two movements at airports. For example, a trip from Melbourne to Sydney will be counted twice, as a departure at Melbourne and as a 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.

Not applicable.

NA