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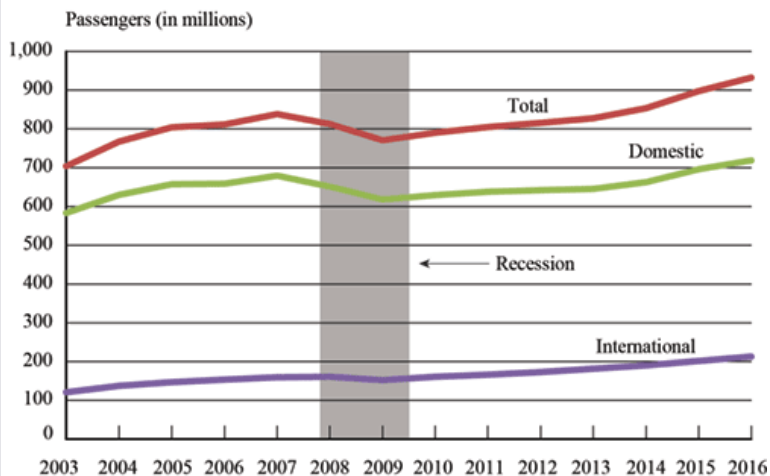
Corrected 2016 Traffic Data for U.S Airlines and Foreign Airlines U.S. Flights

Press Release Number: BTS 17-17**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2017**Media Contact:** Dave Smallen, 202-366-5568[PDF](#) | [Excel](#)

Note: This press release replaces BTS 17-17 issued on March 27. This version includes several foreign carrier reports that were not included in the previous version due to a processing error. International totals and foreign carrier numbers have been corrected throughout. U.S. carrier numbers have not changed from the previous version.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today that U.S. airlines and foreign airlines serving the United States carried an all-time high of 932.0 million systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers in 2016, 3.8 percent more than the previous record high of 897.9 million reached in 2015. The systemwide increase was the result of a 3.3 percent rise from 2015 in the number of passengers on domestic flights (719.0 million in 2016) and 5.5 percent growth from 2015 in passengers on U.S. and foreign airlines' flights to and from the U.S. (213.0 million in 2016) (Tables 1, 1A, 5).

Annual Passengers on All U.S. Scheduled Airline Flights (Domestic & International) and Foreign Airline Flights to and from the United States, 2003-2016

[Table Version](#) | [Excel](#)

SOURCE for Recession Dates: National Bureau of Economic Research, [US Business Cycle Expansions and Contractions](#)

U.S. airlines carried 3.3 percent more passengers on domestic flights and 1.7 percent more passengers on international flights in 2016 than in 2015 for a systemwide increase of 3.1 percent. Foreign airlines carried 9.4 percent more passengers to and from the United States than in 2015. The 213.0 million passengers on international flights to and from the United States was a record high, exceeding the previous high set in 2015 (Tables 1A, 1B, 5).

This annual release includes preliminary data on U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service, including from one foreign point to another foreign point, and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. BTS regular monthly air traffic releases include data on U.S. carrier scheduled service only. For U.S. domestic service data for 2016, see the [BTS December Air Traffic](#) press release.

Airlines with Most Passengers in 2016

Southwest Airlines carried more total system passengers in 2016 than any other U.S. airline. American Airlines carried more passengers on international flights to and from the U.S. in 2016 than any other U.S. or foreign carrier. British Airways carried the most passengers on flights to and from the U.S. of any foreign airline (Tables 3 and 7).

U.S. Airports with Most Passengers in 2016

More total system passengers boarded planes in 2016 at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International than at any other U.S. airport. More passengers boarded international flights at New York John F. Kennedy than at any other U.S. airport (Tables 4 and 8).

Load Factor and Capacity

From 2015 to 2016, systemwide demand, measured in Revenue Passenger-Miles, (RPMs), grew by 5.7 percent while capacity, measured in Available Seat-Miles (ASMs), grew by 6.0 percent. As a result, load factor, which measures the use of capacity, fell by 0.2 percent (Table 1).

Demand on international flights, measured in RPMs, rose slightly less than the growth in capacity measured in ASMs. The result was a decline in the international load factor to 80.5 from 80.6 in 2015 (Table 5).

For annual airline and airport statistics, Tables 1 through 4 provide combined domestic and international travel statistics, and Tables 5 through 8 provide international travel statistics.

Reporting Notes

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with BTS by commercial U.S. and foreign air carriers detailing operations, passenger traffic and freight traffic.

This release includes data received by BTS from 207 carriers as of March 13 for U.S. and foreign carrier **scheduled** civilian operations. See the complete list of [reporting and non-reporting carriers](#). Figure 1 numbers begin with 2003, the first full year of data following a reporting change that went into effect in October 2002.

For additional passenger, flight, Revenue Passenger-Miles, Available Seat-Miles, load factor and freight numbers, go to the [Airlines and Airports](#) page and use the Quick Links. International totals and results for foreign carriers may differ from the press release until the next database update scheduled for April 13. Also, the web tables do not include U.S. carrier foreign point-to-point operations. For 2016, U.S. carriers reported 1,144,651 foreign point-to-point passengers.

To create a customized table for U.S. carrier passengers, flights, RPMs, ASMs and other data, including non-scheduled service, go to [BTS Air Carrier Traffic Statistics](#).

Additional traffic numbers are available on the BTS website at [TranStats](#). Click on "Aviation." For U.S. carrier system passengers, RPMs and ASMs by carrier through December, click on "Air Carrier Summary Data (Form 41 and 298C Summary Data)," and then click on "Schedule T-1." Use crosstabs to find scheduled service.

For domestic numbers through December and international numbers through September by origin as well as by carrier, after clicking on "Aviation," click on "Air Carrier Statistics (Form 41 Traffic)." Click on "T-100 Market" for system passenger numbers, "T-100 Domestic Market" for domestic or "T-100 International Market" for international. For flights, stage length and trip length, use the appropriate T-100 Segment database. Use crosstabs to find scheduled service. Complete international data for the full year 2015 will be released on June 15.

TranStats T-100 system and international totals do not include U.S. carriers' foreign point-to-point flights. None of the data are from samples so measures of statistical significance do not apply. Data in this press release are not seasonally adjusted.

TABLE 1. TRAVEL ON U.S. CARRIERS AND ON FOREIGN CARRIERS' U.S. FLIGHTS*

Scheduled service

	Annual		
	2015	2016	Change %
Passengers (in millions)	897.9	932.0	3.8
Flights (in thousands)	9,544.7	9,718.3	1.8
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	1,300.4	1,374.3	5.7
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	1,573.0	1,667.1	6.0
Load Factor*	82.7	82.4	-0.2
Flight Stage Length**	944.9	964.2	2.0
Passenger Trip Length***	1,448.3	1,474.6	1.8

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market and Segment

* Includes U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. For U.S. carrier domestic and international service data for 2016, see the BTS December Air Traffic press release: <https://www.bts.gov/newsroom/2016-annual-and-december-us-airline-traffic...>

* Change in load factor points

** The average non-stop distance flown per departure in miles

*** The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Note: Percentage changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

TABLE 1A. ANNUAL ENPLANEMENTS ON U.S. CARRIERS AND ON FOREIGN CARRIERS' U.S. FLIGHTS 2015-2016

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

		2015	2016	Change %
U.S. Carrier	Domestic	696.0	719.0	3.3
	International	102.2	103.9	1.7
	System	798.2	823.0	3.1
Foreign Carrier	To and From U.S.	99.7	109.0	9.4
Total		897.9	932.0	3.8

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

TABLE 1B. 2016 PASSENGERS ON U.S. AND FOREIGN AIRLINES BY ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Origin		Destination			
		Domestic		Foreign	
Origin	Domestic	Domestic carriers	719.0	Domestic carriers	51.5
		Foreign Carriers	N/A	Foreign Carriers	54.6
	Foreign	Domestic carriers	51.5	Domestic carriers	1.1
		Foreign Carriers	55.5	Foreign Carriers*	N/A

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market (All Carriers)

* Foreign carriers do not report to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics on flights without a U.S. origin or destination

TABLE 2. MONTHLY ENPLANEMENTS ON U.S. CARRIERS AND ON FOREIGN CARRIERS' U.S. FLIGHTS*

Scheduled passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

	2014	2015	2014-2015 Pct. Change	2016	2015-2016 Pct. Change
January	62.8	65.3	4.0	69.1	5.7
February	58.2	60.6	4.2	65.6	8.3
March	73.5	76.0	3.4	79.1	4.0
April	70.9	73.8	4.2	75.6	2.4
May	74.3	77.5	4.3	80.7	4.2
June	76.7	80.1	4.5	84.3	5.2
July	80.7	85.5	5.9	87.7	2.6
August	78.6	82.8	5.4	84.2	1.8
September	67.6	72.2	6.7	75.9	5.1
October	72.2	77.2	6.9	78.7	2.0
November	66.4	72.1	8.5	75.0	4.0
December	71.4	74.8	4.8	76.2	1.8
Yr. Total	853.3	897.9	5.2	932.0	3.8

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

* Includes U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. For U.S. carrier domestic and international service data for 2014, see the BTS December Air Traffic press release: http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/press_releases/bts015_16

Note: Percentage changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

TABLE 3. TOP 10 AIRLINES RANKED BY 2016 ENPLANEMENTS ON U.S. CARRIERS AND ON FOREIGN CARRIERS' U.S. FLIGHTS*

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

2016 Rank	Carrier	2016 Enplaned Passengers	2015 Rank	2015 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2015-2016
1	Southwest	151.740	1	144.575	5.0
2	American**	144.191	3	118.293	21.9
3	Delta	143.076	2	138.591	3.2
4	United	100.119	4	95.327	5.0
5	JetBlue	38.241	5	35.074	9.0
6	SkyWest	31.205	6	30.078	3.7
7	Alaska	24.371	9	22.828	6.8
8	ExpressJet	22.185	8	26.003	-14.7
9	Spirit	20.998	10	17.629	19.1
10	Frontier	14.773	12	12.569	17.5

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

* Includes U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. For U.S. carrier domestic and international service data for 2014, see the BTS December Air Traffic press release: <https://www.bts.gov/newsroom/2016-annual-and-december-us-airline-traffic...>

** American Airlines 2015 passenger number includes 28.256 million passengers reported as US Airways from Jan-Jun 2015.

Note: Percentage changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

TABLE 4. TOP 10 U.S. AIRPORTS, RANKED BY 2016 ENPLANEMENTS ON U.S. CARRIERS AND ON FOREIGN CARRIERS' U.S. FLIGHTS*

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

2016 Rank	Airport	2016 Enplaned Passengers	2015 Rank	2015 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2015-2016
1	Atlanta	50.455	1	49.320	2.3
2	Los Angeles	39.597	2	36.438	8.7
3	Chicago O'Hare	37.404	3	36.247	3.2

4	Dallas/Fort Worth	31.251	4	31.569	-1.0
5	New York JFK	29.112	5	27.915	4.3
6	Denver	28.222	6	26.251	7.5
7	San Francisco	25.697	7	24.226	6.1
8	Las Vegas	22.609	9	21.640	4.5
9	Seattle	21.842	13	20.126	8.5
10	Charlotte	21.439	8	21.895	-2.1

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

* Includes U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. For U.S. carrier domestic and international service data for 2016, see the BTS December Air Traffic press release: <https://www.bts.gov/newsroom/2016-annual-and-december-us-airline-traffic...>

Note: Percentage changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

TABLE 5. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ON U.S. CARRIERS AND ON FOREIGN CARRIERS' U.S. FLIGHTS*

Scheduled service

	Annual		
	2015	2016	Change %
Passengers (in millions)	201.9	213.0	5.5
Flights (in thousands)	1,483.6	1,538.9	3.7
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	669.3	713.8	6.7
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	830.4	886.4	6.7
Load Factor*	80.6	80.5	-0.1
Flight Stage Length**	2,333.6	2,370.9	1.6
Passenger Trip Length***	3,315.2	3,352.1	1.1

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 International Market and Segment

* Includes U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. For U.S. carrier domestic and international service data for 2016, see the <https://www.bts.gov/newsroom/2016-annual-and-december-us-airline-traffic...>

* Change in load factor points

** The average non-stop distance flown per departure in miles

*** The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Note: Percentage changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

TABLE 6. MONTHLY INTERNATIONAL ENPLANEMENTS ON U.S. CARRIERS AND ON FOREIGN CARRIERS' U.S. FLIGHTS*

Scheduled passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

	2014	2015	2014-2015 Pct. Change	2016	2015-2016 Pct. Change
January	14.9	15.6	4.8	16.6	6.5
February	12.6	13.4	6.3	14.5	8.1
March	15.8	16.5	4.3	17.5	6.2
April	15.6	16.1	3.3	16.7	3.5
May	16.4	17.2	4.9	18.0	4.4
June	17.4	18.3	5.0	19.5	6.5
July	18.9	20.3	7.4	21.5	5.9
August	18.8	20.0	6.4	20.8	3.6
September	15.1	16.2	7.3	17.2	6.4
October	15.1	16.3	7.9	17.0	4.3
November	13.8	14.9	8.0	15.7	5.0
December	15.9	17.0	6.5	18.0	5.9
Yr. Total	190.5	201.9	6.0	213.0	5.5

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 International Market

* Includes U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. For U.S. carrier domestic and international service data for 2016, see the BTS December Air Traffic press release: <https://www.bts.gov/newsroom/2016-annual-and-december-us-airline-traffic...>

Note: Percentage changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Passenger numbers in thousands (000)

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics. T-100 International Market

* Includes U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. For U.S. carrier domestic and international service data for 2016 see the BTS December Air Traffic press release: <https://www.bts.gov/newsroom/2016-annual-and-december-us-airline-traffic>

** American Airlines 2015 international passenger number includes 3,478.9 thousand passengers reported as US Airways from Jan.-Jun 2015.

Note: Percentage changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Passenger numbers in thousands (000)

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics. T-100 International Market

* Includes U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service and foreign carrier scheduled international service to and from the United States. For U.S. carrier domestic and international service data for 2016 see the BTS December Air Traffic press release: <https://www.bts.gov/newsroom/2016-annual-and-december-us-airline-traffic>

Note: Percentage changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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