Executive Summary – Airline Recovery Analysis (India vs Gulf)

Data Source: https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/shreeramprajapati/airlines-after-covid

1. Objective

- Assess airline recovery from COVID-19 (2020–2025)
- Compare **India** vs **Gulf** airlines
- Analyze **five key dimensions**:
    1. Revenue & Financial Performance
    2. Passenger Traffic Recovery
    3. Capacity & Load Factor
    4. Fleet Size & Utilization
    5. Network & Route Expansion
- **Baseline:** 2019 = 100 (Pre-COVID

Visual: # Revenue & Financial Recovery Trend – Line chart

2. Key Findings

A. Revenue & Financial Performance

- Revenues recovered close to **pre-COVID levels** (2019 = 100) across most airlines.
- **Profitability remains inconsistent**; structural costs and fuel volatility continue to pressure margins.
- Example: SpiceJet and Air India have revenue indices near 100, but profitability is still negative.

B. Passenger Traffic Recovery

- Passenger volumes are gradually returning to pre-COVID levels.
- Gulf airlines slightly outperform Indian carriers in pace of recovery.
- Example: Qatar Airways and Emirates consistently above 100 in Passenger Recovery Index.

Visual: # Passenger Traffic Recovery – Line chart

C. Capacity & Load Factor

- Seat capacity restored carefully; **load factors remain stable** (~76–77%).
- Indicates airlines balanced **supply with demand** to avoid empty seats.

Visual: Capacity Recovery vs Load Factor Scatterplot

D. Fleet Size & Utilization

- Fleet size stable; narrow-body aircraft dominate recovery strategy.

- Indian airlines increased narrow-body use; Gulf airlines maintained mixed fleet.

Visual: Fleet Size Trend + Narrow/Wide Body Mix, Line chart trend line

E. Network & Route Expansion

- Slow network expansion; airlines prioritize **core destinations**.
- Gulf carriers have slightly faster route recovery than Indian airlines. **Visual:** Network & Route Recovery by Airline – line chart

3. India vs Gulf Comparison – Pre covid vs Post Covid Recovery - Line chart

Metric	India	Gulf	Observation
Composite Recovery Index	~99–100	~100–101	Gulf slightly ahead overall
Revenue Recovery	98–101	97–100	Both close to 2019 baseline
Passenger Recovery	98–100	99–101	Gulf carriers recovered faster
Capacity Recovery	97–101	98–100	Slightly smoother recovery in Gulf
Fleet & Network	Stable	Stable	Gulf networks expanded slightly faster

4. Conclusions

1. **Revenue & Operations:** Most airlines have returned to near-normal revenue and passenger levels.
2. **Profitability:** Full financial recovery lags behind operational recovery.
3. **Fleet & Capacity:** Airlines carefully managed fleet utilization and capacity.
4. **Network Expansion:** Gulf carriers recovered route networks slightly faster than Indian airlines.
5. **Overall:** Recovery is **gradual and controlled**, not aggressive, highlighting resilience but ongoing financial pressure.

5. Recommendations

- Monitor **profitability trends** closely.
- Gradually expand **route networks**, especially for Indian carriers.
- Balance **capacity growth with demand** to maintain load factors.
- Explore **fleet optimization** for cost savings.