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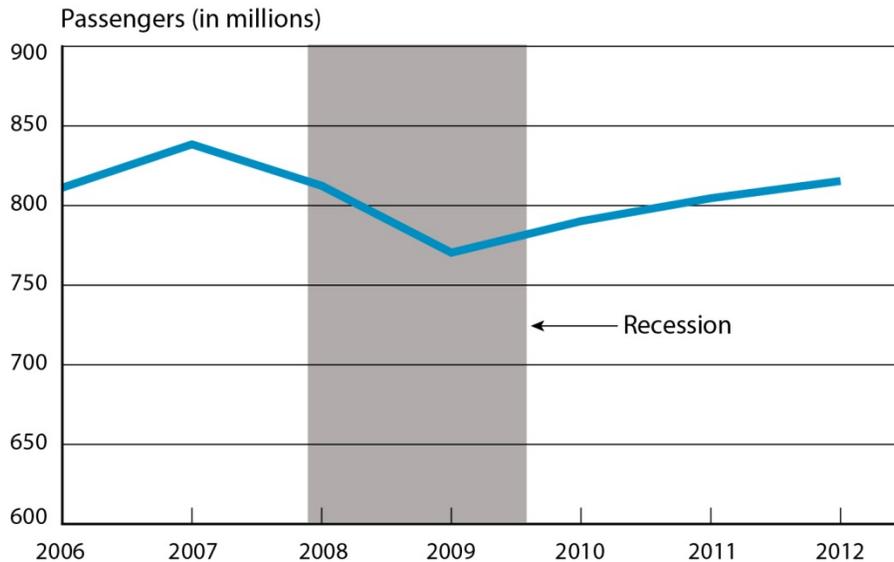
## BTS Data

BTS 16-13  
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### **Total Passengers on U.S Airlines and Foreign Airlines U.S. Flights Increased 1.3% in 2012 from 2011**

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) today reported that 815.3 million scheduled passengers traveled on U.S. airlines and on foreign airlines serving the United States in 2012. This is a 1.3 percent increase from 2011 (Table 1).

### **Annual Passengers on All U.S. Scheduled Airlines (Domestic & International) and Foreign Airlines to and from the United States, 2006-2012**



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

## **AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE**

### **ADD ONE**

BTS, a part of the Department's Research and Innovative Technology Administration, in a release of preliminary data, reported that U.S. airlines carried 0.6 percent more domestic passengers in 2012 and 2.0 percent more international passengers than in 2011 for a systemwide increase of 0.8 percent. The number of passengers traveling to and from the United States on foreign carriers increased 6.8 percent from 2011 (Table 1A).

This annual release includes data on U.S. carrier scheduled domestic and international service 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 2012, see the [BTS December Air Traffic](#) press release.

The upward trend of international passenger numbers continued with increases from each month of 2011 to the same month in 2012 but domestic numbers decreased from the corresponding month of 2011 during the fall (Tables 2, 6).

### **Top Airlines in 2012**

Delta Air Lines carried more total system passengers in 2012 than any other U.S. airline for the third consecutive year. United Airlines, following its merger with Continental Airlines, carried more international passengers to and from the United States in 2012 than any other U.S. or foreign carrier (Tables 3 and 7).

### **Top Airports in 2012**

More total system passengers boarded planes in 2012 at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International than at any other U.S. airport (Table 4); and more international passengers boarded planes at New York John F. Kennedy than at any other U.S. airport (Table 8).

For more information on U.S. carrier domestic operations, see the [BTS December Air Traffic](#) press release.

### **Load Factor and Capacity**

Despite a 2.4 percent rise in revenue passenger-miles, a 1.2 percent increase in capacity, measured in available seat-miles, resulted in a 0.9 point rise in load factor to 82.5, the highest annual load factor on record for U.S. carriers and foreign carriers serving the United States. U.S. carriers and foreign carriers serving the United States operated 9.8 million domestic and international flights in 2012, 1.7 percent fewer than in 2011 (Table 1).

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 194 carriers as of March 25 for U.S. and foreign carrier **scheduled** civilian operations. Go to <http://www.transtats.bts.gov/releaseinfo.asp> for the complete list of reporting and non-reporting carriers. TranStats results for foreign carriers may differ from the press release until the next database update scheduled for April 23.

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ADD TWO**

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 23. These tables do not include U.S. carrier foreign point-to-point operations. For 2012, U.S. carriers reported 2,376,467 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, at <http://transtats.bts.gov>. 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 will be released on June 20.

TranStats system and international totals do not include U.S. carriers’ foreign point-to-point flights.

**Table 1. Scheduled Domestic and International Airline Travel on U.S. and Foreign Airlines\***

	Annual		Change %
	2011	2012	
Passengers (in millions)	804.5	815.3	1.3
Flights (in thousands)	9,989.9	9,821.0	-1.7
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	1,105.9	1,132.5	2.4
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	1,356.0	1,372.7	1.2
Load Factor**	81.6	82.5	0.9
Flight Stage Length***	847.2	862.9	1.8
Passenger Trip Length****	1,374.6	1,389.1	1.1

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. domestic service data for 2012, see the [BTS December Air Traffic](#) press release.

\*\* Change in load factor points

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

\*\*\*\* The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE  
ADD THREE**

**Table 1A. Passengers on U.S. Carriers and on Foreign Carriers' U.S. Flights 2011-2012**  
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

		<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>Change %</b>
U.S. Carrier	Domestic	638.2	642.2	<b>0.6</b>
	International	92.5	94.4	<b>2.0</b>
	<b>System</b>	<b>730.8</b>	<b>736.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Foreign Carrier	To and From U.S.	73.7	78.7	<b>6.8</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>804.5</b>	<b>815.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

**Table 2. Scheduled Domestic and International Enplanements by Month on U.S. and Foreign Airlines\***  
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010- 2011 Pct. Change</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011- 2012 Pct. Change</b>
January	58.1	59.2	1.8	60.5	2.2
February	53.4	54.8	2.7	58.3	6.4
March	68.0	69.3	2.0	70.8	2.1
April	65.1	66.6	2.2	67.9	2.0
May	67.4	70.1	4.0	70.3	0.2
June	71.3	72.8	2.1	73.7	1.2
July	75.4	77.1	2.3	76.9	<b>-0.3</b>
August	72.9	73.4	0.6	75.5	2.9
September	63.1	64.4	2.0	64.1	-0.4
October	67.9	67.5	-0.6	67.2	-0.4
November	63.3	64.0	1.1	64.8	1.2
December	64.2	65.3	1.6	65.3	0.0
<b>Yr. Total</b>	<b>790.2</b>	<b>804.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>815.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>

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. domestic service data for 2012, see the [BTS December Air Traffic](#) press release.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE  
ADD FOUR**

**Table 3. Top 10 Airlines, ranked by January-December 2012 Scheduled Domestic and International Enplanements\***  
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

2012 Rank	Airline	2012 Enplaned Passengers	2011 Rank	2011 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2011-2012
1	Delta	116.445	1	113.485	2.6
2	Southwest**	112.234	2	110.587	1.5
3	<b>UA/CO Combined***</b>	<b>92.367</b>	-	<b>95.611</b>	<b>-3.4</b>
	United	92.367	5	50.474	NA
	Continental	-	6	45.138	NA
4	American	86.335	3	86.042	0.3
5	US Airways	54.238	4	52.921	2.5
6	<b>EV/XE Combined****</b>	<b>32.376</b>	-	<b>30.412</b>	<b>6.5</b>
	ExpressJet	32.376	12	16.194	NA
	Atlantic Southeast	-	13	14.218	NA
7	JetBlue	28.934	7	26.353	9.8
8	SkyWest	26.163	9	24.408	7.2
9	AirTran	21.745	8	24.596	-11.6
10	American Eagle	18.731	11	17.348	8.0

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. domestic service data for 2012, see the [BTS December Air Traffic](#) press release.

\*\* Southwest and AirTran are reporting as separate carriers with the exception of the financials. They have one FAA SOC (single operating certificate), requiring that they utilize the same safety/operating procedures, but they have separate DOT 401 economic certificates, meaning they are operating as separate economic entities.

\*\*\* United's 2012 number is the report of the merged United and Continental. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by United and Continental.

\*\*\*\* ExpressJet's 2012 number is the report of the merged ExpressJet and Atlantic Southeast. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by ExpressJet and Atlantic Southeast.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE  
ADD FIVE**

**Table 4. Top 10 Airports ranked by January-December 2012 Scheduled Domestic and International Enplanements on U.S. and Foreign Airlines\***  
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

<b>2012 Rank</b>	<b>Airport</b>	<b>2012 Enplaned Passengers</b>	<b>2011 Rank</b>	<b>2011 Enplaned Passengers</b>	<b>Pct. Change 2011-2012</b>
1	Atlanta	45.713	1	44.249	3.3
2	Chicago O'Hare	32.063	2	31.841	0.7
3	Los Angeles	31.293	3	30.505	2.6
4	Dallas/Ft. Worth	27.988	4	27.430	2.0
5	Denver	25.776	5	25.635	0.6
6	New York JFK	24.423	6	23.586	3.5
7	San Francisco	21.272	7	20.049	6.1
8	Charlotte	20.017	11	19.007	5.3
9	Las Vegas	19.774	9	19.668	0.5
10	Phoenix	19.537	8	19.727	-1.0

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. domestic service data for 2012, see the [BTS December Air Traffic](#) press release.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE**  
**ADD SIX**

**Table 5. International Scheduled Airline Travel on U.S. and Foreign Airlines\***

	Annual				
	2011	2011 % of Total	2012	2012 % of Total	2011-2012 Change %
Passengers (in millions)	<b>166.2</b>		<b>173.1</b>		<b>4.1</b>
U.S. Carriers	92.5	55.7	94.4	54.5	<b>2.0</b>
Foreign Carriers	73.7	44.3	78.7	45.5	<b>6.8</b>
Flights (in thousands)	<b>1,340.8</b>		<b>1,378.3</b>		<b>2.8</b>
U.S. Carriers	830.9	62.0	842.6	61.1	<b>1.4</b>
Foreign Carriers	509.9	38.0	535.7	38.9	<b>5.1</b>
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	<b>541.2</b>		<b>562.6</b>		<b>3.9</b>
U.S. Carriers	250.7	46.3	254.5	45.2	<b>1.5</b>
Foreign Carriers	290.5	53.7	308.1	54.8	<b>6.1</b>
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	<b>674.6</b>		<b>689.0</b>		<b>2.1</b>
U.S. Carriers	312.6	46.3	312.5	45.4	<b>0.0</b>
Foreign Carriers	362.0	53.7	376.5	54.6	<b>4.0</b>
Load Factor**	<b>80.2</b>		<b>81.6</b>		<b>1.4</b>
U.S. Carriers	80.2		81.4		<b>1.2</b>
Foreign Carriers	80.2		81.8		<b>1.6</b>
Flight Stage Length***	2,208.7		2,183.8		<b>-1.1</b>
Passenger Trip Length****	3,255.3		3,250.2		<b>-0.2</b>

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. domestic service data for 2012, see the [BTS December air traffic](#) press release.

\*\* Change in load factor points

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

\*\*\*\* The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE**  
**ADD SEVEN**

**Table 6. International Scheduled Enplanements by Month on U.S. and Foreign Airlines\***

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010- 2011 Pct. Change</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011- 2012 Pct. Change</b>
January	12.6	12.9	2.2	13.4	3.9
February	10.9	11.2	2.2	11.9	6.8
March	13.5	13.7	0.9	14.6	6.8
April	12.6	13.7	8.7	14.2	3.6
May	13.6	14.1	3.9	14.5	2.7
June	14.6	15.0	2.7	15.8	5.2
July	16.3	16.8	3.5	17.2	2.1
August	15.6	16.0	2.7	16.9	5.6
September	12.8	13.4	4.8	14.0	4.4
October	13.1	13.4	2.1	13.5	1.2
November	11.9	12.3	3.7	12.9	4.9
December	13.2	13.7	4.5	14.1	2.7
<b>Yr. Total</b>	<b>160.7</b>	<b>166.2</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>173.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>

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. domestic service data for 2012, see the [BTS December air traffic](#) press release.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE**  
**ADD EIGHT**

**Table 7. Top 10 Airlines, ranked by January-December 2012 International Scheduled Enplanements\***

Passenger numbers in thousands (000)

<b>2012 Rank</b>	<b>Airline</b>	<b>2012 Enplaned Passengers</b>	<b>2011 Rank</b>	<b>2011 Enplaned Passengers</b>	<b>Pct. Change 2011-2012</b>
1	<b>UA/CO Combined**</b>	<b>24,833.7</b>	-	<b>24,903.4</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
	United	24,833.7	4	10,945.0	NA
	Continental	-	3	13,958.4	NA
2	American	21,325.5	1	20,808.7	2.5
3	Delta	21,006.4	2	20,774.2	1.1
4	US Airways	6,795.5	5	6,749.9	0.7
5	British Airways	6,716.1	6	6,122.3	9.7
6	Air Canada	5,916.1	7	5,678.9	4.2
7	Lufthansa	5,069.2	8	5,172.9	-2.0
8	JetBlue	4,063.7	10	3,428.9	18.5
9	WestJet	3,569.1	12	3,100.9	15.1
10	Air France	3,446.8	9	3,640.7	-5.3

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. domestic service data for 2012, see the [BTS December air traffic](#) press release.

\*\* United's 2012 number is the report of the merged United and Continental. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by United and Continental.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE**  
**ADD NINE**

**Table 8. Top 10 Airports ranked by January-December 2012 International Scheduled Enplanements on U.S. and Foreign Airlines\***  
 Passenger numbers in thousands (000)

<b>2012 Rank</b>	<b>Airport</b>	<b>2012 Enplaned Passengers</b>	<b>2011 Rank</b>	<b>2011 Enplaned Passengers</b>	<b>Pct. Change 2011-2012</b>
1	New York JFK	12,334.2	1	11,706.1	5.4
2	Miami	9,314.5	2	8,828.3	5.5
3	Los Angeles	8,273.4	3	8,065.3	2.6
4	Newark	5,577.1	4	5,710.0	-2.3
5	Chicago O'Hare	5,055.2	5	5,150.7	-1.9
6	Atlanta	4,775.5	6	4,675.6	2.1
7	San Francisco	4,534.8	7	4,334.5	4.6
8	Houston Bush	4,220.5	8	4,198.4	0.5
9	Washington Dulles	3,205.1	9	3,118.0	2.8
10	Dallas/Ft. Worth	2,885.1	10	2,603.0	10.8

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. domestic service data for 2012, see the [BTS December air traffic](#) press release..

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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