Short-Haul Transportation to and from New York The Effect of Airport Congestion on Mode Choice



Aviation Planning at the Leading Edge

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Effect of Delay on Mode Choice



- Airport delays and congestion have increased
 - Well documented
 - Have many causes
- Delay and congestion reduce short-haul demand
 - Short-haul market case study
 - Generalization to NY market
- Economics of short-haul travel
 - Trip costs by modes
 - Time savings
- Opportunities for the future

Example Short-Haul Flight: PIT/EWR





Block time has steadily increased while airborne time has not



Aircraft Trip Time	1999	2005	2007	
Scheduled Time	83	89	101	minutes
Actual Time	89	95	99	minutes
Actual Airborne Time	59	58	57	minutes
Actual Ground Time	30	37	42	minutes
Percent on-time	69%	66%	69%	
Percent cancelled	5%	6%	5%	



Air Travel is Not Just the Flight



Passenger Tri	ip Time	2000	2005	2007
Travel to Airport (minutes)		45	_ 45	45
Time in Origin Airport	New Security Rules	40	70	70
Average Aircraft Taxi Time	Increased Airside Cong	gestion 30	37	22
Average Aircraft Flight Time		59	58	57
Time in Destination Airport		15	15	15
Travel to Destination		45	45	45
Total Time by Air Transport	tation (minutes)	234	270	274
Avg. Speed of Air Transp	oortation (MPH)	82	71	70
Total Driving time		360	360	360
Average Driving Speed (MPH)	53	53	53
Time Save by Air Transp	ortation	126	90	86

PITAirborne just 21% of trip timeEWRDriving becoming a reasonable option

Economy Drives Mode Choice



	2000		2005		2007	
Cost to Drive	\$	102	\$	123	\$	158
Average One-Way Fare Paid	\$	216	\$	211	\$	117
Net Cost of Flight	\$	114	\$	88	\$	(41)
Hourly Cost of Time Saved	\$	54	\$	59	\$	(29)
3rd Quarter Passengers Carried	4	8,320	4	2,420		46,340



2000: Driving Competed Favorably on Trips up to 750 Miles



2000 Travel Cost Savings Including Passenger Time



Passenger Time Valued at NY/NJ Minimum Wage of \$7.15 per Hour

2007: Declining Fares Have Improved Economics of Flying 500-1,000 miles



2007 Travel Cost Savings Including Passenger Time



Short Flights Have Lost More Than Half Their Value – Traffic Declined



	250 Mile Trip				
		2000	2	2007	
Driving Time		4.2		4.2	Hours
Flying Time		2.9		3.6	Hours
Time Saved		1.3		0.6	Hours
Average Air Fare	<u></u>	127	<u>\$</u>	135	
Cost per Hour Saved	\$	98	\$	214	
3rd Quarter Passengers	1,	427,840	93	36,700	34% Decline

- Passenger time in the airport and airfield congestion have reduced value of short-haul service
- Short-haul aircraft operating costs have increased
- Short-haul service levels have declined
- Airlines have shifted remaining service towards feeding connecting gateway hubs
- Weaker product

Airlines Have Improved Value of Medium-Haul Flights by Cutting Fares

	500 Mile Trip				
		2000		2007	
Driving Time		8.0		8.0	Hours
Flying Time		3.4		4.1	Hours
Time Saved		4.6		3.9	Hours
Average Air Fare	\$	155	<u>\$</u>	107	
Cost per Hour Saved	\$	34	\$	27	
3rd Quarter Passengers		1,116,200		1,562,320	40% Increase

- Increases in passenger volume have not fully offset lost revenue
- Time will tell whether airlines can sustain this air service model

Longer-Haul Air Travel Relatively Unaffected



		1,000 N			
		2000		2007	
Driving Time		15.7		15.7	Hours
Flying Time		4.4		5.1	Hours
Time Saved		11.3		10.6	Hours
Average Air Fare	\$	141	\$	135	
Cost per Hour Saved	\$	12	\$	13	
3rd Quarter Passengers	1,9	962,500	2,7	199,840	12% Increase

- Fares have declined slightly
- Flying still delivers strong travel value
- Passenger volumes increased in line with economic growth

Very short-haul air travel remains down while all other travel increased





Longer-haul fares have increased Shorter-haul fares have continued declining

Percent Change in 3rd Quarter Fares (EWR+LGA+JFK)



Total Revenue at 2000 levels Shorter-haul revenue still down





If we do nothing:



- Higher gasoline prices will move inter-city passengers from cars to bus, rail, and air
- Air will remain mode of choice for travel greater than 500 miles despite high levels of airport congestion and delay
- Air travel for destinations less than 250 miles will continue to decline
- Air travel for destinations from 250 to 500 miles will decline if travel times or fares increase

Airlines have small market share of Northeast Corridor inter-city travel



Mode	2006	2007	% Change	
Passengers				
Acela Rail	2,668,000	3,191,000	20%	
Regional Rail	6,755,000	6,837,000	1%	
Air Travel	1,690,000	1,649,000	-2%	
On-Time Performance	ce			
Acela Rail	85%	88%	4%	
Regional Rail	78%	78%	0%	
Air Travel	74%	73%	-1%	
Revenue per Passen	ger			
Acela Rail	\$123	\$126	3%	
Regional Rail	\$59	\$62	6%	
Air Travel	\$114	\$128	12%	

Lessons learned from the Northeast Corridor



- Rail provides a real alternative to driving or flying
 - Should match driving speeds (including stops)
 - Intermediate stops reduce attractiveness of rail and air
 - Can charge premium price at higher than driving speeds
- Rail viable in high-density markets
 - Demand substantially less in thin markets
 - □ Commuter rail provides greatest airport feed at JFK and EWR
- Most Acela growth comes from I-95
- Air travel losing market share to Acela

More activist approaches:



- Improve large-hub airport capacity to reduce air system travel times
 - Restore short-haul air travel efficiency
 - □ Improve schedule consistency
- Improve ground transportation infrastructure to increase speed of short-haul travel
 - Diversion of demand improves efficiency of airports for long-haul travel (air's natural modal monopoly)
- Improving connectivity between all modes will reduce need for connecting short-haul flights at congested airports