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AMERICAN
ECONOMY**

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BTS Data**

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July 2005 Airline Traffic: Seven-Month Domestic Traffic Up 5.6 Percent From 2004

U.S. airlines carried 5.6 percent more domestic passengers and flew 2.0 percent more domestic flights during the first seven months of 2005 than they did during the same period in 2004, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) today reported, in a release of preliminary data (Table 1).

BTS, a part of DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), reported that the airlines carried 389.7 million domestic passengers during the first seven months of 2005, up from the 369.0 million carried between January and July 2004 (Table 2). The passengers were carried on 5.92 million flights, up 2.0 percent from the 5.81 million flights operated in 2004 (Table 1).

In other domestic comparisons from the first seven months of 2004 to the first seven months of 2005:

Revenue passenger miles, a measure of the number of passengers and the distance flown, were up 5.6 percent.

Available seat-miles, a measure of airline capacity, were up 2.0 percent.

Passenger load factor, passengers carried as a proportion of available seats, was up 2.7 load factor points.

Flight stage length, the average non-stop distance flown per departure, was up 1.1 percent.

Passenger trip length, the average distance flown per passenger, was at 868 miles per trip, no change from the first seven months of 2004.

Among airlines, Southwest Airlines carried 51.1 million domestic passengers during the first seven months of 2005, the most of any airline (Table 3).

Among airports, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport was the busiest U.S. airport for domestic travel during the first seven months of 2005, with 22.9 million passenger boardings (Table 4).

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July 2005 Airline Traffic

For the month of July 2005, U.S. airlines carried 62.2 million domestic passengers, 3.6 percent more than in July 2004 (Table 5).

These passengers were carried on 876,270 flights, down 1.0 percent from the flights operated in July 2004.

In other month-to-month domestic comparisons from July 2004 to July 2005:

Revenue passenger miles, a measure of the number of passengers and the distance flown, were up 4.2 percent.

Available seat-miles, a measure of airline capacity, were up 2.0 percent.

Passenger load factor, passengers carried as a proportion of available seats, was up 1.8 load factor points.

Flight stage length, the average non-stop distance flown per departure, was up 2.9 percent.

Passenger trip length, the average distance flown per passenger, was up 0.6 percent.

Among airlines, Southwest Airlines carried 8.5 million domestic passengers during July, the most of any airline (Table 6).

Among airports, Hartsfield-Jackson International in Atlanta was the busiest U.S. airport for domestic travel during July, with 3.6 million passenger boardings (Table 7).

Additional airline traffic data can be found on the BTS website at TranStats, the Intermodal Transportation Database at <http://transtats.bts.gov>. Click on "Aviation," then on "Air Carrier Statistics (Form 41 Traffic)," then click on "T-100 Domestic Market."

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with BTS by commercial air carriers detailing operations, passenger traffic and freight traffic. July traffic data are preliminary and include data received by BTS from 127 airlines as of Oct. 12. Data are subject to revision.

Revised data from June 2005 and previous months are posted on the BTS website at <http://transtats.bts.gov>. BTS will release August traffic data and revised data from July and previous months on Nov. 10.

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Table 1: Domestic Airline Travel January to July

	Jan-July 2004	Jan-July 2005	Change
Passengers	369,030,264	389,730,396	5.6%
Flights	5,805,432	5,922,722	2.0%
Revenue Passenger Miles(000)	320,150,614	338,146,457	5.6%
Available Seat Miles(000)	427,495,287	435,967,058	2.0%
Load Factor	74.9%	77.6%	2.7 points
Flight Stage Length*	597	603	1.1%
Passenger Trip Length**	868	868	0.0%

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

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

** The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Table 2. Total Industry Domestic Enplanements

Month	2003	2004	2005	2004-2005 Pct. Change
January	43,349,913	44,200,845	48,203,554	9.1
February	41,465,820	45,704,392	47,326,497	3.5
March	50,387,895	54,620,647	59,144,119	8.3
April	47,364,607	53,705,969	55,216,004	2.8
May	49,413,135	53,385,405	57,626,589	7.9
June	52,541,294	57,345,362	60,000,943	4.6
July	56,144,204	60,067,644	62,212,690	3.6
August	54,320,946	57,793,104		
September	44,575,720	47,964,269		
October	50,347,370	54,543,089		
November	47,456,128	52,021,239		
December	50,132,111	52,895,033		
Annual Total	587,499,143	634,246,998		
Jan.-July Total	340,666,868	369,030,264	389,730,396	5.6

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

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE
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Table 3. Top 10 Airlines, ranked by January-July 2005 Domestic Enplanements

Jan- July 2005 Rank	Carrier	Jan-July 2005 Passengers	Jan- July 2004 Rank	Jan-July 2004 Passengers
1	Southwest Airlines	51,072,695	1	47,466,094
2	Delta Air Lines	47,918,110	2	46,883,939
3	American Airlines	45,648,675	3	42,928,542
4	United Airlines	32,167,097	4	34,963,226
5	Northwest Airlines	28,333,805	5	26,719,372
6	US Airways	23,264,719	6	22,183,855
7	Continental Airlines	19,196,822	7	18,493,610
8	America West Airlines	12,233,527	8	11,620,727
9	American Eagle Airlines	9,601,228	10	8,072,099
10	AirTran Airways	9,400,668	11	7,581,785

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

Table 4. Top 10 Airports ranked by January-July 2005 Domestic Enplanements

Jan-June 2005 Rank	Airport Name	Jan-June 2005 Passengers	Jan-June 2004 Rank	Jan-June 2004 Passengers
1	Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta	22,948,239	1	22,204,489
2	Chicago O'Hare	18,091,916	2	17,883,768
3	Dallas-Fort Worth	14,889,910	3	15,110,134
4	Los Angeles Int'l	12,393,315	4	12,384,837
5	Las Vegas McCarran	11,965,942	6	11,200,895
6	Denver	11,663,204	5	11,515,386
7	Phoenix Sky Harbor	11,486,964	7	10,920,267
8	Minneapolis-St.Paul	9,906,636	8	9,432,555
9	Orlando	9,498,418	10	8,733,950
10	Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County	9,300,886	9	8,792,707

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

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Table 5: Domestic Airline Travel in July

	July 2004	July 2005	Change
Passengers	60,067,644	62,212,690	3.6%
Flights	885,286	876,270	-1.0%
Revenue Passenger Miles(000)	53,207,198	55,445,430	4.2%
Available Seat Miles(000)	64,739,235	66,032,519	2.0%
Load Factor	82.2%	84.0%	1.8 points
Flight Stage Length*	595	612	2.9%
Passenger Trip Length**	886	891	0.6%

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

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

** The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Table 6. Top 10 Airlines, ranked by July 2005 Domestic Enplanements

July 2005 Rank	Carrier	July 2005 Passengers	July 2004 Rank	July 2004 Passengers
1	Southwest Airlines	8,487,413	1	7,623,703
2	Delta Air Lines	7,395,121	2	7,469,377
3	American Airlines	7,367,486	3	6,718,150
4	United Airlines	5,113,840	4	5,833,257
5	Northwest Airlines	4,610,081	5	4,472,013
6	US Airways	3,474,330	6	3,474,841
7	Continental Airlines	3,030,896	7	2,978,741
8	America West Airlines	1,949,061	8	1,868,638
9	AirTran Airways	1,612,346	11	1,237,363
10	American Eagle Airlines	1,507,029	10	1,316,870

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

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Table 7. Top 10 Airports ranked by July 2005 Domestic Enplanements

July 2005 Rank	Airport Name		July 2005 Passengers	July 2004 Rank	July 2004 Passengers
1	Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta	ATL	3,599,188	1	3,515,755
2	Chicago O'Hare	ORD	2,883,540	2	2,948,323
3	Dallas-Fort Worth	DFW	2,417,356	3	2,405,511
4	Los Angeles Int'l	LAX	2,056,507	4	2,074,545
5	Las Vegas McCarran	DEN	1,981,273	5	1,974,894
6	Denver	LAS	1,850,107	6	1,700,856
7	Phoenix Sky Harbor	PHX	1,753,236	7	1,682,914
8	Minneapolis-St.Paul	MSP	1,691,295	8	1,618,687
9	Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County	DTW	1,483,791	9	1,456,093
10	Houston Bush Intercontinental	IAH	1,468,168	10	1,365,950

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

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