



BTS 9-09
Wednesday, February 18, 2009

Contact: Dave Smallen
Tel.: (202) 366-5568

December 2008 Passenger Airline Employment Down 6.7 Percent from December 2007

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines employed 6.7 percent fewer workers in December 2008 than in December 2007, the sixth consecutive decrease in full-time equivalent employee (FTE) levels for the scheduled passenger carriers from the same month of the previous year and the largest year-to-year decrease since December 2003, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today (Table 2). The December FTE total of 391,918 for the scheduled passenger carriers was the lowest total since 1993. FTE calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

All the network airlines decreased employment from December 2007 to December 2008 (Table 9) as did low-cost carriers AirTran Airways and Frontier Airlines (Table 12). Regional carriers American Eagle Airlines, SkyWest Airlines, ExpressJet Airlines, Comair, Horizon Air, Mesa Airlines, Executive Airlines, and PSA Airlines also reported reduced employment levels compared to last year (Table 15).

Scheduled passenger airlines include network, low-cost, regional and other airlines. Many regional carriers were not required to report employment numbers before 2004, so year-to-year comparisons involving regional carriers, or the total industry, are not available for the years before 2004.

The seven network carriers employed 264,744 FTEs in December, 67.6 percent of the passenger airline total, while low-cost carriers employed 16.0 percent and regional carriers employed 14.8 percent (Table 4).

American Airlines employed the most FTEs in December among the network carriers, Southwest Airlines employed the most among low-cost carriers, and American Eagle employed the most among regional carriers. Seven of the top 10 employers in the industry are network carriers (Table 6).

America West Airlines and US Airways now operate under a single certificate. Joint reporting began with October 2007 data. US Airways' employment numbers were included with the network airlines prior to October 2007 while America West's numbers were included with the low-cost airlines.

- more -

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE

ADD ONE

Beginning with October 2007, US Airways' numbers are combined with America West's numbers in the network category. The combined carrier's numbers were included in the low-cost category for October 2007 through February 2008 in the releases for those months. The numbers for those months have been revised beginning with the March 2008 release to include the combined carrier's numbers in the network category for all months. The revision was due to a BTS recalculation based on the airline's fourth quarter financial report released May 19, 2008.

Network Airlines

FTEs at the group of seven network carriers decreased 6.3 percent in December 2008 compared to December 2007, the fourth monthly decrease from the same month of the previous year after 16 consecutive months of year-over-year growth. Prior to an increase in May 2007, the network group had reduced FTEs from the previous year every month since September 2001 (Table 7).

Within the group, all network carriers decreased FTEs from December 2007 to December 2008: United Airlines, 12.7 percent; Northwest Airlines, 6.9 percent; Delta Air Lines; 6.2 percent, American, 4.3 percent; Continental Airlines, 4.2 percent; US Airways, 4.0 percent; and Alaska Airlines, 3.0 percent (Table 9).

FTEs at four network carriers declined during the four years from December 2004 to December 2008. The biggest percentage decline was at Northwest, down 27.7 percent, a reduction of 10,715 FTEs, followed by United at 20.7 percent. The other FTE decreases during that time were Delta, down 19.9 percent, and American, down 8.6 percent. The increases were at Continental, 8.5 percent; Alaska, 2.8 percent; and the newly combined US Airways, 27.2 percent (Table 9).

Network carriers operate a significant portion of their flights using at least one hub where connections are made for flights to down-line destinations or spoke cities.

Low-Cost Airlines

Low-cost carrier FTEs declined 3.3 percent in December from December 2007, the third consecutive monthly decline in the group's FTEs not influenced by the US Airways-America West post-merger reporting. Since the America West and US Airways reports were combined in October 2007, low-cost carrier FTEs decreased each month for 12 consecutive months through September compared to the same month of the previous year but the previous year numbers included America West while the recent data did not (Tables 10, 11).

- more -

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE

ADD TWO

Five low-cost carriers reported year-to-year increases: Virgin America, 71.3 percent; Allegiant Airlines, 14.2 percent; Southwest, 3.3 percent; Spirit Airlines, 2.8 percent and JetBlue Airways, 2.3 percent. AirTran and Frontier reported year-to-year FTE decreases. ATA Airlines, which reported 2,319 FTEs in December 2007, stopped operating on April 3 and ceased reporting employment data effective in April 2008. SkyBus also stopped reporting in April 2008 but had employed 381 FTEs in December 2007 (Table 12).

Low-cost carriers are those that the industry recognizes as operating under a low-cost business model, with lower infrastructure costs and higher productivity.

Regional Airlines

Regional carrier FTEs were down 5.2 percent in December 2008 compared to December 2007 (Table 13).

ExpressJet, down 32.1 percent, and PSA, down 27.4 percent, reported the largest decreases in the regional group. Compass Airlines, up 114.4 percent, and Mesaba Airlines, up 28.6 percent, and reported the largest increases in the group (Table 15).

Regional carrier FTEs rose from 55,299 in December 2004 to 57,884 in December 2008, an increase of 4.7 percent (Table 14).

The 12 regional carriers reporting employment data in both 2004 and 2008 employed 2.8 percent fewer FTEs in December 2008 than in December 2004. PSA reported the largest percentage decline, down 41.6 percent, followed by Air Wisconsin, down 27.2 percent, and Mesa Airlines, down 24.0 percent. Atlantic Southeast, ExpressJet, Comair and Executive also reported fewer FTEs in December 2008 than December 2004 (Table 15).

Mesaba Airlines reported the biggest gain four-year gain, 39.3 percent, followed by Pinnacle Airlines at 39.0 percent and SkyWest at 28.4 percent. Horizon and American Eagle also reported more FTEs in December 2008 than December 2004 (Table 15).

Effective with April 2008 reporting, Trans States Airlines no longer met the reporting requirements for filing monthly airline employment data. Trans States reported 1,293 FTEs in December 2007.

Regional carrier Compass began reporting employment data in November 2007. Compass reported 761 FTEs in December 2008 (Table 15). Regional carrier Lynx Airlines began reporting employment data in February 2008. Lynx reported 359 FTEs in December (Table 15). Regional carrier Colgan Airlines began reporting employment data in April 2008. Colgan reported 1,277 FTEs in December (Table 15).

Regional carriers typically provide service from small cities, using primarily regional jets to support the network carriers' hub and spoke systems.

**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD THREE**

Reporting Notes

Airlines that operate at least one aircraft with the capacity to carry combined passengers, cargo and fuel of 18,000 pounds – the payload factor – must report monthly employment statistics.

The Other Carrier category generally reflects those airlines that operate within specific niche markets, such as Continental Micronesia and Hawaiian Airlines serving the Hawaiian Islands.

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with BTS by commercial air carriers as of Feb. 11. Additional airline employment data can be found on the BTS website at http://www.bts.gov/programs/airline_information/number_of_employees/. BTS has scheduled release of January airline employment data for March 17.

Table 1: Change in Passenger Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Carrier Group
Percent change compared to same month the previous year for the most recent 13 months

Month	Network Carriers** (Pct. Change) From Table 7	Low-Cost Carriers (Pct. Change) From Table 10	Regional Carriers (Pct. Change) From Table 13	All Passenger Airlines*** (Pct. Change) From Table 2
Dec. 2006-Dec. 2007	7.5	-11.2	4.9	3.7
Jan. 2007-Jan. 2008	7.5	-11.4	3.7	3.4
Feb. 2007-Feb. 2008	7.7	-11.9	1.1	3.0
Mar 2007-Mar 2008	7.5	-15.2	0.6	1.6
Apr. 2007-Apr. 2008	7.1	-15.9	2.0	1.3
May 2007-May 2008	6.4	-15.4	1.3	0.8
June 2007-June 2008	5.3	-15.6	1.8	0.1
July 2007-July 2008	4.3	-16.8	1.4	-0.8
Aug. 2007-Aug. 2008	2.7	-17.1	0.3	-2.1
Sept. 2007-Sept. 2008	-0.2	-17.9	-2.1	-4.5
Oct. 2007-Oct. 2008	-5.4	-1.9	-5.3	-5.7
Nov. 2007-Nov. 2008	-6.2	-2.8	-6.0	-6.5
Dec. 2007-Dec. 2008	-6.3	-3.3	-5.2	-6.7

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** US Airways' employment numbers were included with the network airlines prior to October 2007 while America West's numbers were included with the low-cost airlines. Beginning with October 2007, US Airways' numbers are combined with America West's numbers in the network category. The combined carrier's numbers were included in the low-cost category for October 2007 through February 2008 in the releases for those months. The numbers for those months have been revised beginning with the March 2008 release to include the combined carrier's numbers in the network category for all months. The revision was due to a BTS recalculation based on the airline's fourth quarter financial report released May 19.

*** Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers. Other Carriers generally operate within specific niche markets. They are: Casino Express Airlines, Continental Micronesia, Hawaiian Airlines, Midwest Airlines, Sun Country Airlines and USA3000 Airlines. Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD FOUR

Table 2: Change in Total Passenger Airline* Full-time Equivalent Employees from the Previous Year**

Percent change compared to same month the previous year

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008
January	-0.8	-6.0	-0.4	3.4
February	-1.4	-5.8	0.4	3.0
March	-1.9	-5.4	0.7	1.6
April	-3.1	-4.6	1.4	1.3
May	-3.5	-4.9	2.2	0.8
June	-3.8	-4.8	2.5	0.1
July	-3.5	-5.9	2.8	-0.8
August	-5.8	-3.1	2.6	-2.1
September	-5.8	-2.6	3.0	-4.5
October	-6.0	-2.2	3.5	-5.7
November	-6.5	-1.6	3.7	-6.5
December	-5.9	-0.9	3.7	-6.7

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers.

** Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Table 3: Total Passenger Airline* Full-time Equivalent Employees by Month**
Numbers in thousands (000's)

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change	
						2004-2008	2007-2008
January	435.0	431.5	405.7	404.3	418.1	-3.9	3.4
February	435.0	428.9	404.5	406.0	418.3	-3.8	3.0
March	435.9	427.7	405.1	408.0	414.8	-4.8	1.6
April	437.8	424.1	404.5	410.2	415.5	-5.1	1.3
May	439.6	424.4	403.6	412.4	415.6	-5.4	0.8
June	440.9	424.3	403.8	414.0	414.6	-6.0	0.1
July	444.1	428.5	403.3	414.6	411.1	-7.4	-0.8
August	443.0	417.5	404.7	415.4	406.8	-8.2	-2.1
September	440.0	414.5	403.7	416.3	397.4	-9.7	-4.5
October	439.1	412.7	403.6	417.9	394.3	-10.2	-5.7
November	439.5	411.0	404.5	419.4	392.2	-10.8	-6.5
December	434.0	408.8	405.0	419.8	391.9	-9.7	-6.7
Jan-Dec Average	438.7	421.2	404.3	413.2	407.6	-7.1	-1.4

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers.

** Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

Note: Percent changes and averages based on numbers prior to rounding.

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD FIVE

Table 4: Total Number of Full-time Equivalent Employees* (FTEs) by Carrier Group, December 2004-2008

FTE Numbers in thousands (000's)

	Network**	Low-Cost**	Regional	All Passenger Airlines***
2004	295.7	72.0	55.3	434.0
2005	270.6	71.2	56.5	408.8
2006	262.9	72.5	58.2	405.0
2007	282.7	64.8	61.1	419.8
2008	264.7	62.6	57.8	391.9
Pct. Change 2004-2008****	-10.5%	-13.0%	4.6%	-9.7%
Percent of Total Passenger Airline Employees in 2008	67.6%	16.0%	14.8%	

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** America West's employment numbers were included with the low-cost airlines prior to October 2007. Beginning with October 2007, America West's numbers are combined with US Airways numbers in the network category.

*** Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers.

**** Percent change comparison for regional airlines and for all passenger airlines is for 2005 to 2008 because of the number of airlines in these categories that did not meet the standard for reporting monthly employment numbers.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Table 5: Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Carrier Group, Year-to-Year Change, December 2004-2008

Percent Change from the previous year

	Network**	Low-Cost**	Regional***	All Passenger Airlines****
2004	-3.5	1.1	N/A	N/A
2005	-8.5	-1.1	2.2	-5.8
2006	-2.9	1.8	3.0	-0.9
2007	7.5	-10.6	4.9	3.7
2008	-6.3	-3.3	-5.2	-6.7

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** America West's employment numbers were included with the low-cost airlines prior to October 2007. Beginning with October 2007, America West's numbers are combined with US Airways numbers in the network category.

*** Some regional carriers were not required to report employment numbers before 2005, so year-to-year comparisons involving regional carriers, or the total industry, are not appropriate for the years before 2005.

**** Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD SIX

Table 6: Top 10 Airlines, December 2008
Ranked by Number of Full-Time Equivalent Employees*

Rank	Airline	Total FTE Employees (000)	Carrier Group	Top 10 Airlines December 2007
1	American	70.1	Network	American
2	United	45.8	Network	United
3	Delta	45.4	Network	Delta
4	Southwest	35.5	Low Cost	Continental
5	Continental	34.5	Network	Southwest
6	US Airways	31.4	Network	US Airways
7	Northwest	28.0	Network	Northwest
8	JetBlue	10.4	Low Cost	SkyWest
9	Alaska	9.6	Network	JetBlue
10	American Eagle	9.2	Regional	Alaska

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

Table 7: Network Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* Change from the Previous Year**

Percent change compared to same month the previous year

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008
January	-4.1	-8.1	-2.6	7.5
February	-4.6	-7.8	-2.2	7.7
March	-5.0	-7.4	-1.4	7.5
April	-6.5	-6.7	-0.7	7.1
May	-6.6	-7.0	0.3	6.7
June	-7.0	-6.8	1.3	5.3
July	-5.9	-8.1	1.5	4.3
August	-9.0	-4.7	1.5	2.7
September	-8.9	-4.1	1.8	-0.2
October	-8.9	-4.0	7.2	-5.4
November	-9.3	-3.4	7.5	-6.2
December	-8.5	-2.9	7.5	-6.3

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** US Airways' employment numbers were included with the network airlines prior to October 2007 while America West's numbers were included with the low-cost airlines. Beginning with October 2007, US Airways' numbers are combined with America West' numbers in the network category. The combined carrier's numbers were included in the low-cost category for October 2007 through February 2008 in the releases for those months. The numbers for those months have been revised beginning with the March 2008 release to include the combined carrier's numbers in the network category for all months. The revision was due to a BTS recalculation based on the airline's fourth quarter financial report released May 19.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD SEVEN

Table 8: Network Carrier Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Month**
Numbers in thousands (000's)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change	
						2004-2008	2007-2008
January	305.1	292.7	269.1	262.0	281.7	-18.4	7.5
February	304.7	290.9	268.2	262.4	282.6	-18.0	7.7
March	304.6	289.3	267.8	264.1	283.9	-6.8	7.5
April	305.6	285.8	266.6	264.8	283.7	-7.2	7.1
May	306.0	285.8	265.8	266.6	283.6	-7.3	6.4
June	306.1	284.8	265.3	268.6	282.8	-7.6	5.3
July	306.3	288.2	264.9	268.7	280.3	-8.5	4.3
August	305.3	277.8	264.8	268.8	276.1	-9.6	2.7
September	302.4	275.4	264.0	268.8	268.4	-11.2	-0.2
October	300.9	274.1	263.0	281.9	266.6	-11.4	-5.4
November	300.2	272.4	263.0	282.7	265.2	-11.7	-6.2
December	295.7	270.6	262.9	282.7	264.7	-10.5	-6.3
Jan-Dec Average	305.1	285.6	266.3	270.2	276.6	-8.9	2.4

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** US Airways' employment numbers were included with the network airlines prior to October 2007 while America West's numbers were included with the low-cost airlines. Beginning with October 2007, US Airways' numbers are combined with America West's numbers in the network category. The combined carrier's numbers were included in the low-cost category for October 2007 through February 2008 in the releases for those months. The numbers for those months have been revised beginning with the March 2008 release to include the combined carrier's numbers in the network category for all months. The revision was due to a BTS recalculation based on the airline's fourth quarter financial report released May 19.

Note: Percent changes and averages based on numbers prior to rounding.

- more -

**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD EIGHT**

Table 9: Network Carrier Full-time Equivalent Employees*, December 2004-2008
(Ranked by December 2008 FTEs)
Numbers in thousands (000's)**

Rank		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change	
							2004-2008	2007-2008
1	American	76.7	74.8	73.0	73.2	70.1	-8.6	-4.3
2	United	57.8	53.6	52.3	52.4	45.8	-20.7	-12.7
3	Delta	56.7	48.6	44.6	48.4	45.4	-19.9	-6.2
4	Continental	31.8	32.7	34.5	36.0	34.5	8.5	-4.2
5	US Airways	24.7	20.1	19.4	32.7	31.4	27.2	-4.0
6	Northwest	38.7	31.9	29.6	30.0	28.0	-27.7	-6.9
7	Alaska	9.3	9.0	9.4	9.9	9.6	2.8	-3.0
	Total	295.7	270.6	262.9	282.7	264.7	-10.5	-6.3

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Note: Detail may not add to total due to rounding

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Beginning with October 2007, US Airways' numbers are combined with America West Airlines' numbers in the network category. For America West's previous year numbers in the low-cost category, see Table 12.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

- more -

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD NINE

Table 10: Change in Low-Cost Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* from the Previous Year**

Percent change compared to same month the previous year

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008
January	0.6	-5.0	4.8	-9.7
February	0.7	-3.7	5.3	-10.2
March***	0.2	-2.6	4.7	-13.3
April	-0.6	-1.8	6.0	-15.2
May	-0.9	-1.7	5.6	-14.8
June	-1.0	-1.6	5.6	-14.9
July	-1.4	-2.1	6.1	-16.1
August	-0.6	-0.3	5.5	-16.4
September	-0.8	0.1	6.2	-17.3
October	-0.9	1.2	-11.3	-1.5
November	-2.3	1.3	-10.3	-2.8
December	-1.1	1.8	-10.6	-3.3

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** US Airways' employment numbers were included with the network airlines prior to October 2007 while America West's numbers were included with the low-cost airlines. Beginning with October 2007, US Airways' numbers are combined with America West's numbers in the network category. The combined carrier's numbers were included in the low-cost category for October 2007 through February 2008 in the releases for those months. The numbers for those months have been revised beginning with the March 2008 release to include the combined carrier's numbers in the network category for all months. The revision was due to a BTS recalculation based on the airline's fourth quarter financial report released May 19.

*** ATA Airlines ceased operating on April 3, 2008 and stopped reporting employment data effective in March.

Note: Employment numbers in 2005 for Independence Air, which changed its business model from a regional to low-cost carrier in mid-2004, are included with low-cost carriers. The airline discontinued flights on Jan. 5, 2006.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

- more -

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD TEN

Table 11: Low-Cost Carrier Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Month**
Numbers in thousands (000's)

	2004***	2005***	2006	2007****	2008	Percent Change	
						2004-2008	2007-2008
January	71.5	72.0	68.4	71.7	64.7	-9.5	-9.7
February	70.8	71.3	68.7	72.3	64.9	-8.2	-10.2
March*****	71.1	71.2	69.4	72.6	62.9	-11.5	-13.3
April	71.3	70.9	69.6	73.8	62.5	-12.3	-15.2
May	71.6	71.0	69.8	73.7	62.8	-12.3	-14.8
June	72.0	71.3	70.1	74.0	63.0	-12.6	-14.9
July	72.7	71.7	70.2	74.5	62.5	-14.1	-16.1
August	71.9	71.5	71.3	75.2	62.9	-12.6	-16.4
September	71.6	71.0	71.1	75.5	62.5	-12.8	-17.3
October	71.6	70.9	71.7	63.6	62.7	-12.4	-1.5
November	72.7	71.0	71.9	64.5	62.7	-13.7	-2.8
December	72.0	71.2	72.5	64.8	62.6	-13.0	-3.3
Jan-Dec Average	71.7	71.3	70.4	71.4	63.1	-12.1	-11.6

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** US Airways' employment numbers were included with the network airlines prior to October 2007 while America West's numbers were included with the low-cost airlines. Beginning with October 2007, US Airways' numbers are combined with America West Airlines' numbers in the network category. The combined carrier's numbers were included in the low-cost category for October 2007 through February 2008 in the releases for those months. The numbers for those months have been revised beginning with the March 2008 release to include the combined carrier's numbers in the network category for all months. The revision was due to a BTS recalculation based on the airline's fourth quarter financial report released May 19.

***Employment numbers in 2004 and 2005 for Independence Air, which changed its business model from a regional to low-cost carrier in mid-2004, are included with low-cost carriers. The airline discontinued flights on Jan. 5, 2006.

**** Virgin America and SkyBus began reporting employment data in August 2007. SkyBus stopped reporting employment data effective in April 2008 resulting from its bankruptcy filing.

***** ATA Airlines ceased operating on April 3, 2008 and stopped reporting employment data effective in March.

Note: Percent changes and averages based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

- more -

**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD ELEVEN**

Table 12: Low-Cost Carrier Full-time Equivalent Employees,* December 2004-2008
(Ranked by December 2008 FTEs)**

Rank		2004***	2005***	2006	2007****	2008	Percent Change	
							2004-2008	2007-2008
1	Southwest	31,012	31,729	32,664	34,378	35,499	14.5	3.3
2	JetBlue	6,678	8,448	9,509	10,145	10,377	55.4	2.3
3	AirTran	5,913	6,703	7,415	8,236	7,489	26.7	-9.1
4	Frontier	4,056	4,093	4,522	5,216	4,397	8.4	-15.7
5	Spirit	2,484	2,059	2,041	2,201	2,263	-8.9	2.8
6	Allegiant	386	555	846	1,180	1,348	249.2	14.2
7	Virgin America	N/A	N/A	N/A	735	1,259	N/A	71.3
8	ATA*****	5,947	3,658	2,454	2,319	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	SkyBus	N/A	N/A	N/A	381	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	Independence	4,158	2,375	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	America West	11,392	11,579	13,038	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Total	72,023	71,198	72,487	64,788	62,631	-13.0	-3.3

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** US Airways' employment numbers were included with the network airlines prior to October 2007 while America West's numbers were included with the low-cost airlines. Beginning with October 2007, US Airways' numbers are combined with America West Airlines' numbers in the network category. The combined carrier's numbers were included in the low-cost category for October 2007 through February 2008 in the releases for those months. The numbers for those months have been revised beginning with the March 2008 release to include the combined carrier's numbers in the network category for all months. The revision was due to a BTS recalculation based on the airline's fourth quarter financial report released May 19.

***Employment numbers in 2004 and 2005 for Independence Air, which changed its business model from a regional to low-cost carrier in mid-2004, are included with low-cost carriers. The airline discontinued flights on Jan. 5, 2006.

**** Virgin America and SkyBus began reporting employment data in August 2007. SkyBus stopped reporting employment data effective in April 2008 resulting from its bankruptcy filing.

***** ATA Airlines ceased operating on April 3, 2008 and stopped reporting employment data effective in March.

N/A: Carrier did not meet the standard for filing, was no longer operating, merged with another operating carrier or failed to file. See previous notes.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

- more -

AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD TWELVE

Table 13: Change in Regional Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* from the Previous Year

Percent change compared to same month the previous year

	2005**	2006	2007***	2008****
January	15.5	2.5	3.0	3.7
February	14.3	1.1	5.9	1.1
March	13.7	0.5	5.6	0.6
April	12.6	0.6	5.6	2.0
May	11.1	-0.6	7.2	1.3
June	11.0	-1.6	5.1	1.8
July	6.0	-0.8	4.8	1.4
August	5.1	-1.0	4.9	0.3
September	4.3	-0.3	5.2	-2.1
October	2.7	0.6	5.5	-5.3
November	2.1	2.4	5.1	-6.0
December	2.2	3.0	4.9	-5.2

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Republic, Shuttle America and GoJet reported for part of 2005.

*** Compass began reporting employment numbers in November 2007.

**** Lynx Airlines began reporting in February 2008. Colgan Airlines began reporting in April 2008. Trans States Airlines no longer met reporting requirements beginning in April 2008.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Table 14: Regional Carrier Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Month
Numbers in thousands (000's)

	2004**	2005***	2006	2007****	2008*****	Percent Change	
						2004-2008	2007-2008
January	48.3	55.8	57.2	58.9	61.1	9.5	3.7
February	48.9	55.9	56.6	59.9	60.5	8.3	1.1
March	49.6	56.4	56.7	59.9	60.2	6.9	0.6
April	50.3	56.6	56.9	60.1	61.3	8.4	2.0
May	51.2	56.9	56.5	60.6	61.4	7.9	1.3
June	51.9	57.6	57.0	59.9	61.0	5.8	1.8
July	54.3	57.6	57.1	59.9	60.7	5.4	1.4
August	55.0	57.8	57.2	60.2	61.6	6.5	2.3
September	55.2	57.6	57.4	60.7	59.4	3.2	-2.1
October	55.8	57.4	57.7	61.2	58.0	1.1	-5.3
November	55.6	56.8	58.1	61.1	57.5	3.3	-6.0
December	55.3	56.5	58.2	61.1	57.9	4.7	-5.2
Jan-Dec Average	52.6	56.9	57.2	60.3	60.0	14.1	-0.4

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Mesa, Pinnacle and PSA began reporting employment numbers in 2004.

*** Republic, Shuttle America and GoJet reported for part of 2005.

**** Compass began reporting employment numbers in November 2007.

***** Lynx Airlines began reporting in February 2008. Colgan Airlines began reporting in April 2008. Trans States Airlines no longer met reporting requirements beginning in April 2008.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

- more -

**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE
ADD THIRTEEN**

**Table 15: Regional Carrier Full-time Equivalent Employees*, December 2004-2008
(Ranked by December 2008 FTEs)**

Rank		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change**	
							2004-2008	2007-2008
1	American Eagle	9,130	9,419	9,269	9,679	9,220	1.0	-4.7
2	SkyWest	6,998	8,101	8,791	10,249	8,986	28.4	-12.3
3	Comair	6,098	6,329	6,126	6,349	5,533	-9.3	-12.9
4	ExpressJet	6,344	6,375	6,828	7,753	5,267	-17.0	-32.1
5	Atlantic Southeast	5,718	5,552	5,657	4,295	4,353	-23.9	1.4
6	Mesaba	2,701	3,277	2,555	2,926	3,763	39.3	28.6
7	Pinnacle	2,605	2,968	3,288	3,283	3,622	39.0	10.3
8	Horizon	3,322	3,504	3,656	3,741	3,447	3.8	-7.9
9	Mesa	3,832	2,975	3,240	3,091	2,912	-24.0	-5.8
10	Air Wisconsin	3,653	2,198	2,314	2,179	2,660	-27.2	22.1
11	Executive	1,785	1,750	1,682	1,720	1,644	-7.9	-4.4
12	Republic	N/A	N/A	670	1,324	1,418	N/A	7.1
13	Colgan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,277	N/A	N/A
14	Shuttle America	N/A	711	1,104	1,119	1,232	N/A	10.1
15	PSA	1,692	1,570	1,432	1,361	988	-41.6	-27.4
16	Compass	N/A	N/A	N/A	355	761	N/A	114.4
17	GoJet	N/A	237	312	363	445	N/A	22.6
18	Lynx	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	359	N/A	N/A
19	Trans States***	1,421	1,302	1,278	1,293	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Total	55,299	56,514	58,202	61,080	57,884	-2.8	-5.2

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Some regional carriers were not required to report employment numbers before 2005, so year-to-year comparisons involving regional carriers, or the total industry, are not appropriate for the years before 2005. The Percent Change 2004-2008 is based on the 12 carriers reporting in both years.

*** Effective with April 2008 reporting, Trans States Airlines no longer met the reporting requirements for filing monthly airline employment data.

N/A: Not applicable because carriers did not meet the standard for filing.

Note: Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

- end -