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## **September 2008 Passenger Airline Employment Down 4.5 Percent from September 2007**

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines employed 4.5 percent fewer workers in September 2008 than in September 2007, the third 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 July 2006, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today (Table 2). The September FTE total of 397,400 for the scheduled passenger carriers was the first time since BTS began keeping employment statistics in 1997 that industry employment fell below 400,000. FTE calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

All the network airlines except for Alaska Airlines decreased employment from September 2007 to September 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, and PSA Airlines also reported reduced employment levels compared to last year (Table 15). US Airways' 2007-2008 increase is based on a comparison to the September 2007 report prior to joint reporting with America West.

Scheduled passenger airlines include network, low-cost, regional and other airlines. Many regional carriers were not required to report employment numbers before 2003, so year-to-year comparisons involving regional carriers, or the total industry, are not available for the years before 2003.

The seven network carriers employed 268,416 FTEs in September, 67.5 percent of the passenger airline total, while low-cost carriers employed 15.4 percent and regional carriers also employed 15.0 percent (Table 4).

American Airlines employed the most FTEs in September 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.

## **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.

The merged airline, listed in the network category, reported 31,321 FTEs for September 2008. In September 2007, US Airways reported 20,391 FTEs in the network category and America West reported 12,380 FTEs in the low-cost category for a total of 32,771.

### **Network Airlines**

FTEs at the group of seven network carriers decreased 0.2 percent in September 2008 compared to September 2007, the first monthly decrease from the same month of the previous year after 16 consecutive months of year over year growth. The network FTEs decreased even though US Airways and America West reported separately in September 2007 with America West reporting in the low-cost category. Prior to an increase in August 2007, the network group had reduced FTEs from the previous year every month since September 2001 (Table 7).

Within the group, five network carriers decreased FTEs from September 2007 to September 2008: United Airlines, 8.4 percent; Northwest Airlines, 4.8 percent; Delta Air Lines; 4.2 percent, American Airlines, 3.5 percent; and Continental Airlines, 2.8 percent. The year-to-year increases were US Airways, 53.6 percent, and Alaska, 0.7 percent (Table 9). US Airways' September 2007 FTE number was reported prior to joint reporting with America West.

FTEs at four network carriers declined during the four years from September 2004 to September 2008. The exceptions were Continental with a 0.9 percent increase, Alaska Airlines at 0.02 percent increase, and the newly combined US Airways with a 22.0 percent gain (Table 9). The biggest percentage decline was at Northwest, down 25.8 percent, a reduction of 9,688 FTEs, followed by Delta at 19.2 percent. The other FTE decreases during that time were United, down 18.3 percent, and American, down 10.8 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**

Since the America West and US Airways report was combined last October and following the BTS recalculation of the carrier groups to place the merged airline in the network category, low-cost carrier FTEs decreased each month for 12 consecutive months through September compared to the same month of the previous year (Tables 10, 11).

## **AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE**

### **ADD TWO**

Although the merger resulted in a year-to-year decline for the group, four low-cost carriers reported year-to-year increases: JetBlue Airways, 6.7 percent, Spirit Airlines 9.0 percent, Virgin America, 107.8 percent and Southwest Airlines, 5.2 percent. AirTran and Frontier reported FTE year-to-year decreases. ATA Airlines, which reported 2,387 FTEs in September 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 295 FTE's in September 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. Two new low-cost carriers, SkyBus Airlines and Virgin America, began reporting employment data in September. SkyBus ceased operations on April 5. Virgin America reported 1,176 FTE employees in September 2008 (Table 12).

### **Regional Airlines**

Regional carrier FTEs were down 2.1 percent in September 2008 compared to September 2007 (Table 13).

Mesaba Airlines and Air Wisconsin reported the largest increases in the group. Mesaba employed 26.1 percent more FTEs in September 2008 than September 2007, while Air Wisconsin employed 31.3 percent more (Table 15).

Regional carrier FTEs rose from 57,593 in September 2005 to 59,412 in September 2008, an increase of 3.2 percent (Table 14).

The 12 regional carriers reporting employment data in both 2004 and 2008 employed 0.8 percent more FTEs in September 2008 than in September 2004. Of that group, Pinnacle Airlines reported the biggest gain, 48.1 percent, followed by SkyWest at 35.1 percent and Mesaba Airlines at 10.3 percent. Atlantic Southeast Airlines, Comair, Air Wisconsin, Mesa, PSA, and Executive Airlines reported fewer FTEs in September 2008 than September 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 1,316 FTEs in September 2007.

Regional carrier Compass Airlines began reporting employment data in November 2007. Compass reported 721 FTEs in September (Table 15). Regional carrier Lynx Airlines began reporting employment data in February 2008. Lynx reported 358 FTEs in September (Table 15). Regional carrier Colgan Airlines began reporting employment data in April 2008. Colgan reported 1,333 FTEs in September (Table 15).

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

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**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 in serving the Hawaiian Islands.

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with BTS by commercial air carriers as of Nov. 12. Additional airline employment data can be found on the BTS website at

[http://www.bts.gov/programs/airline\\_information/number\\_of\\_employees/](http://www.bts.gov/programs/airline_information/number_of_employees/). BTS has scheduled release of October airline employment data for Dec. 16.

**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
Sept. 2006-Sept. 2007	1.8	6.0	5.2	3.0
Oct. 2006-Oct. 2007	7.2	-11.8	5.5	3.5
Nov. 2006-Nov. 2007	7.5	-10.9	5.1	3.7
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	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-17.9</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-4.5</b>

**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: Allegiant Air, 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
<b>September</b>	-5.8	-2.6	3.0	<b>-4.5</b>
October	-6.0	-2.2	3.5	
November	-6.5	-1.6	3.7	
December	-5.9	-0.9	3.7	

**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
<b>September</b>	440.0	414.5	403.7	416.3	<b>397.4</b>	<b>-9.7</b>	<b>-4.5</b>
October	439.1	412.7	403.6	417.9			
November	439.5	411.0	404.5	419.4			
December	434.0	408.8	405.0	419.8			
<b>12-Month Average</b>	<b>438.7</b>	<b>421.2</b>	<b>404.3</b>	<b>413.2</b>			
<b>Jan-Sept Average</b>	<b>439.0</b>	<b>424.6</b>	<b>404.3</b>	<b>411.2</b>	<b>412.5</b>	<b>-6.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>

**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, September 2004-2008**  
**FTE Numbers in thousands (000's)**

	<b>Network**</b>	<b>Low-Cost**</b>	<b>Regional</b>	<b>All Passenger Airlines***</b>
<b>2004</b>	302.4	71.3	55.2	440.0
<b>2005</b>	275.4	70.6	57.6	414.5
<b>2006</b>	264.0	70.3	57.4	403.7
<b>2007</b>	268.8	74.5	60.7	416.3
<b>2008</b>	268.4	61.2	59.4	397.4
<b>Pct. Change 2004-2008****</b>	<b>-11.2%</b>	<b>-14.1%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>
<b>Percent of Total Passenger Airline Employees in 2008</b>	<b>67.5%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	

**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, September 2004-2008**  
**Percent Change from the previous year**

	<b>Network**</b>	<b>Low-Cost**</b>	<b>Regional***</b>	<b>All Passenger Airlines****</b>
<b>2004</b>	-1.7	0.7	N/A	N/A
<b>2005</b>	-8.9	-1.0	4.3	-5.8
<b>2006</b>	-4.1	-0.4	-0.3	-2.6
<b>2007</b>	1.8	6.0	5.2	3.1
<b>2008</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-17.9</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-4.5</b>

**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, September 2008  
Ranked by Number of Full-Time Equivalent Employees\***

Rank	Airline	Total FTE Employees (000)	Carrier Group**	Top 10 Airlines September 2007
1	American	70.6	Network	American
2	United	47.7	Network	United
3	Delta	46.3	Network	Delta
4	Southwest	35.5	Low Cost	Continental
5	Continental	34.8	Network	Southwest
6	US Airways	31.3	Network	Northwest
7	Northwest	27.8	Network	US Airways
8	JetBlue	10.3	Low Cost	America West
9	Alaska	9.8	Network	Alaska
10	American Eagle	9.5	Regional	SkyWest

**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.

**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
<b>September</b>	-8.9	-4.1	1.8	<b>-0.2</b>
October	-8.9	-4.0	7.2	
November	-9.3	-3.4	7.5	
December	-8.5	-2.9	7.5	

**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
<b>September</b>	302.4	275.4	264.0	268.8	<b>268.4</b>	<b>-11.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
October	300.9	274.1	263.0	281.9			
November	300.2	272.4	263.0	282.7			
December	295.7	270.6	262.9	282.7			
<b>12-Month Average</b>	<b>305.1</b>	<b>285.6</b>	<b>266.3</b>	<b>270.2</b>			
<b>Jan-Sept Average</b>	<b>305.1</b>	<b>285.6</b>	<b>266.3</b>	<b>266.1</b>	<b>280.4</b>	<b>-8.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>

**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.

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**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE  
ADD EIGHT**

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

Rank		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change	
							2004-2008	2007-2008
1	<b>American</b>	79.2	75.5	72.9	73.2	70.6	<b>-10.8</b>	<b>-3.5</b>
2	<b>United</b>	58.4	53.9	52.9	52.1	47.7	<b>-18.3</b>	<b>-8.4</b>
3	<b>Delta</b>	57.2	50.7	44.4	48.3	46.3	<b>-19.2</b>	<b>-4.2</b>
4	<b>Continental</b>	34.5	32.6	34.3	35.8	34.8	<b>0.9</b>	<b>-2.8</b>
5	<b>US Airways</b>	25.7	20.7	19.2	20.4	31.3	<b>22.0</b>	<b>53.6</b>
6	<b>Northwest</b>	37.5	33.0	30.9	29.2	27.8	<b>-25.8</b>	<b>-4.8</b>
7	<b>Alaska</b>	9.8	9.0	9.4	9.7	9.8	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.7</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>302.4</b>	<b>275.4</b>	<b>264.0</b>	<b>268.8</b>	<b>268.4</b>	<b>-11.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

**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.

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**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE**  
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**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	0.5	-5.3	4.5	-11.4
February	0.6	-4.1	5.0	-11.9
March***	0.0	-3.0	4.4	-15.2
April	-0.7	-2.2	5.7	-15.9
May	-1.0	-2.1	5.3	-15.4
June	-1.2	-2.0	5.3	-15.6
July	-1.5	-2.6	5.9	-16.8
August	-0.7	-0.8	5.3	-17.1
<b>September</b>	-1.0	-0.4	6.0	<b>-17.9</b>
October	-1.2	0.8	-11.8	
November	-2.5	0.9	-10.9	
December	-1.4	1.4	-11.2	

**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.

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**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE**  
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**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	71.2	71.6	67.8	70.8	62.8	-11.8	-11.4
February	70.5	70.9	68.0	71.4	62.9	-10.8	-11.9
March*****	70.8	70.8	69.7	71.7	60.8	-14.2	-15.2
April	71.0	70.3	68.9	72.8	61.2	-13.7	-15.9
May	71.3	70.5	69.1	72.7	61.5	-13.7	-15.4
June	71.7	70.8	69.4	73.1	61.7	-14.0	-15.6
July	72.4	71.3	69.4	73.5	61.2	-15.5	-16.8
August	71.6	71.1	70.5	74.2	<b>61.6</b>	-14.0	-17.1
<b>September</b>	71.3	70.6	70.3	74.5	<b>61.2</b>	<b>-14.1</b>	<b>-17.9</b>
October	71.2	70.4	70.9	62.6			
November	72.3	70.5	71.1	63.4			
December	71.6	70.6	71.6	63.6			
<b>12-Month Average</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>70.8</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>70.4</b>			
<b>Jan-Sept Average</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>15.3</b>

**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.

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**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE  
ADD ELEVEN**

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

Rank		2004***	2005***	2006	2007****	2008	Percent Change	
							2004-2008	2007-2008
1	<b>Southwest</b>	30,657	31,382	32,144	33,787	35,545	<b>15.9</b>	<b>5.2</b>
2	<b>JetBlue</b>	6,256	7,885	9,620	9,653	10,298	<b>64.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>
3	<b>AirTran</b>	5,637	6,302	7,179	8,092	7,372	<b>30.8</b>	<b>-8.9</b>
4	<b>Frontier</b>	4,068	4,097	4,518	5,206	4,479	<b>10.1</b>	<b>-14.0</b>
5	<b>Spirit</b>	2,330	2,023	1,989	2,143	2,335	<b>0.2</b>	<b>9.0</b>
6	<b>Virgin America</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	566	1,176	<b>N/A</b>	<b>107.8</b>
7	<b>ATA*****</b>	6,545	4,097	2,500	2,387	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
8	<b>SkyBus</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	295	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
9	<b>Independence</b>	4,321	3,020	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
10	<b>America West</b>	11,456	11,769	12,366	12,380	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>71,270</b>	<b>70,575</b>	<b>70,316</b>	<b>74,509</b>	<b>61,204</b>	<b>-14.1</b>	<b>-17.9</b>

**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.

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**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
<b>September</b>	4.3	-0.3	5.2	<b>-2.1</b>
October	2.7	0.6	5.5	
November	2.1	2.4	5.1	
December	2.2	3.0	4.9	

**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	
						2005-2008	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
<b>September</b>	55.2	57.6	57.4	60.7	<b>59.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>-2.1</b>
October	55.8	57.4	57.7	61.2			
November	55.6	56.8	58.1	61.1			
December	55.3	56.5	58.2	61.1			
<b>12-Month Average</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>57.2</b>	<b>60.3</b>			
<b>Jan-Sept Average</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>60.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>

**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.

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**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE  
ADD THIRTEEN**

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

Rank		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change**	
							2004-2008	2007-2008
1	<b>American Eagle</b>	8,942	9,448	9,227	9,562	9,452	<b>5.7</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
2	<b>SkyWest</b>	6,716	8,132	8,491	9,966	9,076	<b>35.1</b>	<b>-8.9</b>
3	<b>ExpressJet</b>	6,223	6,492	6,826	7,868	6,394	<b>2.7</b>	<b>-18.7</b>
4	<b>Comair</b>	5,907	6,589	6,061	6,219	5,717	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>-8.1</b>
5	<b>Atlantic Southeast</b>	5,857	5,510	5,601	4,343	4,433	<b>-24.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>
6	<b>Pinnacle</b>	2,418	3,080	3,063	3,544	3,580	<b>48.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>
7	<b>Horizon</b>	3,318	3,450	3,619	3,763	3,546	<b>6.9</b>	<b>-5.8</b>
8	<b>Mesaba</b>	3,130	3,371	2,585	2,739	3,453	<b>10.3</b>	<b>26.1</b>
9	<b>Mesa</b>	3,866	3,343	3,389	3,234	2,942	<b>-23.9</b>	<b>-9.0</b>
10	<b>Air Wisconsin</b>	3,766	2,388	2,229	2,233	2,933	<b>-22.1</b>	<b>31.3</b>
11	<b>Executive</b>	1,864	1,746	1,669	1,671	1,693	<b>-9.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>
12	<b>Colgan</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,333	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
13	<b>Republic</b>	N/A	104	601	1,112	1,303	<b>N/A</b>	<b>17.2</b>
14	<b>Shuttle America</b>	N/A	704	1,063	1,062	1,085	<b>N/A</b>	<b>2.2</b>
15	<b>PSA</b>	1,797	1,660	1,473	1,459	991	<b>-44.9</b>	<b>-32.1</b>
16	<b>Compass</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	721	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
17	<b>GoJet</b>	N/A	152	310	352	405	<b>N/A</b>	<b>15.1</b>
18	<b>Lynx</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	358	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
19	<b>Trans States***</b>	1,436	1,428	1,238	1,316	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>55,237</b>	<b>57,597</b>	<b>57,445</b>	<b>60,443</b>	<b>59,415</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-1.7</b>

**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.

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