

Table 1081. Commuter/Regional Airline Operations Summary: 2005 to 2009

[154.2 represents 154,200,000. Calendar year data. Commuter/regional airlines operate primarily aircraft of predominately 75 passengers or less and 18,000 pounds of payload capacity serving short haul and small community markets. Represents operations within all North America by U.S. Regional Carriers. Averages are means. For definition of mean, see Guide to Tabular Presentation]

Item	Unit	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Passenger carriers operating	Number	75	71	72	(NA)	62
Passengers enplaned	Millions	154.2	153.9	159.0	(NA)	159.5
Average passengers enplaned per carrier	1,000	2,055.6	2,168.0	2,208.5	(NA)	(NA)
Revenue passenger miles (RPM)	Billions	73.8	70.8	73.8	(NA)	72.9
Average RPMs per carrier	Millions	983.7	997.2	1,024.7	(NA)	(NA)
Available seat miles	Billions	104.8	94.8	99.0	(NA)	97.6
Average load factor	Percent	70.4	74.7	74.6	(NA)	74.7
Departures completed	Millions	5.3	5.0	5.0	(NA)	4.1
Airports served	Number	846	688	666	(NA)	644
Average trip length	Miles	478.5	460.0	464.0	(NA)	457.0
Average seating capacity (seats)	Number	54.4	51.0	52.4	(NA)	55.0
Fleet flying hours	1,000	7,333.0	7,133.1	7,306.7	(NA)	5,146.0

NA Not available.

Source: Compiled by the Regional Airline Association and BACK Aviation from DOT Form 41 data, *Annual Report of the Regional Airline Industry* (copyright). See also <<http://www.raa.org/>>.

Table 1082. Airports, Aircraft, and Airmen: 1980 to 2008

[As of December 31 or for years ending December 31]

Item	1980	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008
Airports, total ¹	15,161	17,490	18,224	19,281	19,854	19,990	20,060	19,653
Public ¹	4,814	5,589	5,415	5,317	5,270	5,233	5,221	5,202
Percent—with lighted runways	66.2	71.4	74.3	75.9	76.8	77.2	(NA)	(NA)
With paved runways	72.3	70.7	73.3	74.3	74.8	75.3	(NA)	(NA)
Private	10,347	11,901	12,809	13,964	14,584	14,757	14,839	14,451
Percent—with lighted runways	15.2	7.0	6.4	7.2	9.2	9.5	(NA)	(NA)
With paved runways	13.3	31.5	33.0	32.0	33.2	33.3	(NA)	(NA)
Certificated ²	730	680	667	651	575	604	565	560
Civil	(X)	(X)	572	563	575	604	565	560
Civil military	(X)	(X)	95	88	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
General aviation	14,431	16,810	17,557	18,630	19,279	19,379	19,495	19,103
Active air carrier fleet ³	3,805	6,083	7,411	8,055	8,225	8,089	8,044	(NA)
Fixed wing	3,803	6,072	7,293	8,016	8,182	8,042	7,998	(NA)
Helicopter	2	11	118	39	43	47	46	(NA)
General aviation fleet ⁴	211,043	198,000	188,089	217,533	224,352	221,943	231,607	228,663
Fixed-wing	200,094	184,500	162,342	183,276	185,373	182,186	186,806	182,961
Turbojet	2,992	4,100	4,559	7,001	9,823	10,379	10,385	11,042
Turboprop	4,089	5,300	4,995	5,762	7,942	8,063	9,514	8,906
Piston	193,013	175,200	152,788	170,513	167,608	163,743	166,907	163,013
Rotocraft	6,001	6,900	5,830	7,150	8,728	9,159	9,567	9,876
Other	4,945	6,600	4,741	6,700	6,454	6,277	5,940	5,652
Glanders	(X)	(X)	2,182	2,041	2,074	1,975	1,947	1,914
Lighter than air	(X)	(X)	2,559	4,660	4,380	4,303	3,993	3,738
Experimental	(X)	(X)	15,176	20,407	23,627	23,047	23,228	23,364
Airman certificates held: ⁵								
Pilot, total	827,071	702,659	639,184	625,581	609,737	597,109	590,349	613,746
Women	52,902	40,515	38,032	36,757	36,584	36,101	35,784	37,981
Student	199,833	128,663	101,279	93,064	87,213	84,866	84,339	80,989
Recreational	(X)	87	232	340	278	239	239	252
Airplane:								
Private	357,479	299,111	261,399	251,561	228,619	219,233	211,096	222,596
Commercial	183,442	149,666	133,980	121,858	120,614	117,610	115,127	124,746
Air transport	69,569	107,732	123,877	141,596	141,992	141,935	143,953	146,838
Rotocraft only ⁶	6,030	9,567	7,183	7,775	9,518	10,690	12,290	14,647
Glider only	7,039	7,833	11,234	9,387	21,369	21,597	21,274	21,055
Flight instructor certificates	60,440	63,775	77,613	80,931	90,555	91,343	92,175	93,202
Instrument ratings	260,462	297,073	298,798	311,944	311,828	309,333	309,865	325,247
Nonpilot ⁷	368,356	492,237	651,341	547,453	644,016	656,227	666,559	678,181
Mechanic	250,157	344,282	405,294	344,434	320,293	323,097	322,852	326,276
Repairmen	(X)	(X)	61,233	38,208	40,030	40,329	40,277	41,056
Parachute rigger	9,547	10,094	11,824	10,477	8,150	8,252	8,186	8,248
Ground instructor	61,550	66,882	96,165	72,326	74,378	74,849	74,544	74,983
Dispatcher	6,799	11,002	15,642	16,340	18,079	18,610	19,043	19,590
Flight navigator	1,936	1,290	916	570	298	264	250	222
Flight engineer	38,367	58,687	60,267	65,098	57,756	55,952	54,394	53,135

NA Not available. X Not applicable. ¹ Existing airports, heliports, seaplane bases, etc., recorded with FAA. Includes military airports with joint civil and military use. Includes U.S. outlying areas. Airport-type definitions: Public—publicly owned and under control of a public agency; private—owned by a private individual or corporation. May or may not be open for public use.

² Certificated airports serve air-carriers with aircraft seating more than 30 passengers. ³ Air-carrier aircraft are aircraft carrying passengers or cargo for hire under 14 CFR 121 (large aircraft—more than 30 seats) and 14 CFR 135 (small aircraft—30 seats or fewer). ⁴ Beginning 1995 excludes commuters. ⁵ Source: U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. See <http://www.faa.gov/data_research/>. Prior years in the *Statistical Handbook of Aviation*, annual. ⁶ Data for 1980 are for helicopters only. ⁷ All certificates on record. No medical examination required.

Source: Except as noted, U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics, *National Transportation Statistics*, annual. See also <http://www.bts.gov/publications/national_transportation_statistics/>.