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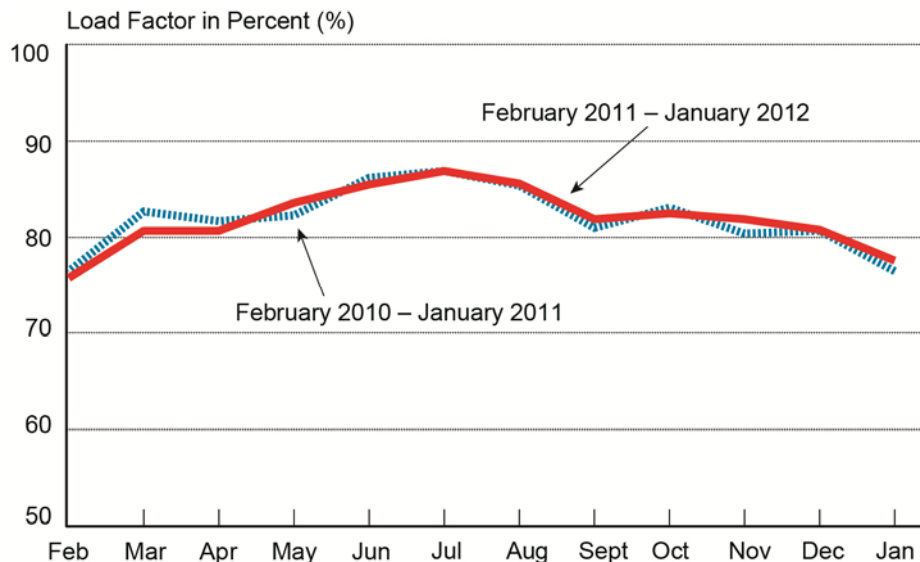
BTS 19-12
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Contact: Dave Smallen
Tel: 202-366-5568

January 2012 Airline System Traffic Up 1.1 Percent from January 2011

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today that U.S. airlines carried 54.3 million scheduled domestic and international passengers in January 2012, 1.3 percent more domestic passengers and 0.4 percent fewer international passengers than in January 2011. These changes resulted in a systemwide increase of 1.1 percent in passengers from January 2011 (Tables 1, 5, 9). The January 2012 passenger total was 3.3 percent above that of two years ago in January 2010 (Table 2).

BTS, a part of DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration, also reported in a release of preliminary data that the system load factor of 77.6 percent and the domestic load factor of 78.1 percent were record highs for the month of January (Tables 1, 5).

Passenger Load Factor on All U.S. Scheduled Airlines (Domestic & International), February 2011-January 2012



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See Tables 2, 8 and 14 of [Air Traffic Press Releases](#) for previous year numbers. Additional traffic numbers can be found on the [BTS website](#) in the Airlines and Airports box. Click on a link in the column on the right.

Load Factor and Capacity

January continued the trend of 2011 when the domestic load factor was at an all-time high while the international load factor declined from the all-time high in 2010 and the system load factor equaled the previous record set in 2010 (Tables 1, 5, 9). Domestic capacity, measured by available seat-miles, decreased 0.7 percent in January 2012 compared to January 2011, while revenue passenger miles (RPMs) increased by 1.2 percent, resulting in the record domestic load factor (Table 5). The international load factor in January increased as airlines decreased capacity by 1.1 percent while RPMs declined by a smaller 0.7 percent (Table 9). Systemwide capacity was down 0.8 percent compared to a 0.6 percent increase in RPMs (Table 1). See Tables 1, 7 and 13 of [Air Traffic Press Releases](#) for previous year numbers.

Top Airlines

Monthly: In January, Southwest Airlines carried more total system and domestic passengers than any other U.S. airline (Tables 3, 7). United Airlines, following its merger with Continental Airlines, carried the most international passengers (Table 11). The top 10 US airlines carried 79.7 percent of systemwide passengers, an increase from the 71.9 percent in January 2011.

United and Continental now report jointly as United. Numbers reported as United in this release for previous years do not include Continental's numbers. See the notes for system, domestic and international airline ranking tables 3, 7 and 11 for 2011 passenger numbers previously reported for America West.

ExpressJet Airlines and Atlantic Southeast Airlines now report jointly as ExpressJet. Numbers reported as ExpressJet in this release for previous years do not include Atlantic Southeast's numbers. See the notes for system, domestic and international airline ranking tables 3, 7 and 11 for 2011 passenger numbers previously reported for Atlantic Southeast.

Top Airports

Monthly: In January, more total system and domestic passengers boarded planes at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International than at any other U.S. airport (Tables 4, 8); and more international passengers boarded U.S. carriers at Miami than at any other U.S. airport (Table 12).

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For other year-to-date and monthly comparisons, see the following tables:

System (Domestic + International) (Tables 1-4)

Table 1 (January and January through December 2010 and 2011):

Passengers
Flights
Revenue passenger-miles (RPMs)
Available seat-miles (ASMs)
Passenger load factor
Flight stage length
Passenger trip length

Table 2

System scheduled enplanements on U.S. airlines by month since January 2010

Airline Rankings

Table 3

January: Top 10 airlines by scheduled passenger enplanements

Airport Rankings

Table 4

January: Top 10 airports by scheduled passenger enplanements on U.S. airlines

Scheduled Domestic Air Travel (Tables 5-8)

Table 5 (January and January through December 2010 and 2011):

Domestic passengers
Domestic flights
Domestic revenue passenger-miles (RPMs)
Domestic available seat-miles (ASMs)
Domestic passenger load factor
Domestic flight stage length
Domestic passenger trip length

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Table 6

Domestic scheduled enplanements on U.S. airlines by month since January 2010

Airline Rankings

Table 7

January: Top 10 domestic airlines by scheduled passenger enplanements

Airport Rankings

Table 8

January: Top 10 domestic airports by scheduled passenger enplanements

Scheduled International Air Travel on U.S. Airlines (Tables 9-12)

Table 9 (January and January through December 2010 and 2011):

International passengers

International flights

International revenue passenger-miles on U.S. airlines (RPMs)

International available seat-miles on U.S. airlines (ASMs)

International passenger load factor on U.S. airlines

International flight stage length on U.S. airlines

International passenger trip length on U.S. airlines

Table 10

International scheduled enplanements on U.S. airlines by month since January 2010

Airline Rankings

Table 11

January: Top 10 U.S. airlines by scheduled international passenger enplanements

Airport Rankings

Table 12

January: Top 10 airports by scheduled international passenger enplanements on U.S. airlines

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Reporting Notes

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with BTS by commercial U.S. air carriers detailing operations, passenger traffic and freight traffic. This release includes data received by BTS from 78 carriers as of April 17 for U.S. carrier **scheduled** civilian operations. Go to <http://www.transtats.bts.gov/releaseinfo.asp> for the complete list of reporting and non-reporting carriers. U.S. carriers' foreign point-to-point flights are included in system and international totals. To create a customized table for passengers, flights, RPMs, ASMs and other data, including non-scheduled service, go to http://www.bts.gov/programs/airline_information/air_carrier_traffic_statistics/.

Traffic numbers are available on the BTS website at TranStats, the Intermodal Transportation Database, at <http://transtats.bts.gov>. Click on "Aviation." For system passengers, RPMs and ASMs by carrier through January, click on "Air Carrier Summary Data (Form 41 and 298C Summary Data)," and then click on "Schedule T-1." Use crosstabs to find scheduled service.

For domestic numbers through January and international numbers through October by origin as well as by carrier, after clicking on "Aviation," click on "Air Carrier Statistics (Form 41 Traffic)." Click on "T-100 Market" for system passenger numbers, "T-100 Domestic Market" for domestic or "T-100 International Market" for international. For flights, stage length and trip length, use the appropriate T-100 Segment database. Use crosstabs to find scheduled service.

TranStats system and international totals do not include U.S. carriers' foreign point-to-point flights. For January, U.S. carriers reported 205,688 foreign point-to-point passengers.

Data are subject to revision. BTS has scheduled May 23 for the release of February 2012 traffic data.

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE
ADD FIVE**

Table 1: Scheduled System (Domestic and International) Airline Travel on U.S. Airlines

	Monthly			Previous Calendar Years		
	Jan 2011	Jan 2012	Change %	2010	2011	Change %
Passengers (in millions)	53.7	54.3	1.1	720.5	730.0	1.3
Flights (in thousands)	751.4	744.0	-1.0	9,521.2	9,473.9	-0.5
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	60.7	61.1	0.6	798.0	814.3	2.0
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	79.3	78.7	-0.8	972.6	992.7	2.1
Load Factor*	76.5	77.6	1.1	82.0	82.0	0.0
Flight Stage Length**	745.4	750.4	0.7	729.1	743.2	1.9
Passenger Trip Length***	1,130.9	1,125.4	-0.5	1,107.6	1,115.5	0.7

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

*Change in load factor points

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

*** The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

**Table 2. Total System (Domestic and International) Scheduled Enplanements on U.S. Airlines
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)**

	2010	2011	2010- 2011 Pct. Change	2012	2011- 2012 Pct. Change
January	52.6	53.7	2.2	54.3	1.1
February	48.7	50.1	2.9		
March	62.2	63.6	2.2		
April	59.6	60.5	1.5		
May	61.5	63.9	3.9		
June	65.0	66.1	1.7		
July	68.4	69.8	2.0		
August	66.3	66.2	-0.1		
September	57.4	58.0	1.2		
October	62.1	61.2	-1.5		
November	58.2	58.1	-0.1		
December	58.6	58.9	0.5		
Yr. Total	720.5	730.0	1.3		

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE
ADD SIX**

Table 3. Top 10 U.S. Airlines, ranked by January 2012 System* Scheduled Enplanements
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Jan 2012 Rank	Carrier	Jan 2012 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2011 Rank	Jan 2011 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2011-2012
1	Southwest	8.170	1	8.307	-1.7
2	Delta	8.084	2	7.955	1.6
3	United**	6.960	5	3.873	79.7
4	American	6.770	3	6.706	1.0
5	US Airways	4.291	4	4.028	6.5
6	ExpressJet***	2.230	12	0.986	126.2
7	JetBlue	2.163	7	1.913	13.1
8	SkyWest	1.702	8	1.841	-7.5
9	AirTran	1.603	9	1.679	-4.5
10	Alaska	1.351	10	1.313	2.9

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

* System equals domestic plus international

** United's 2012 number is the report of the merged United and Continental. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by United and Continental. Continental reported 3.453 million system passengers in January 2011.

*** ExpressJet's 2012 number is the report of the merged ExpressJet and Atlantic Southeast. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by ExpressJet and Atlantic Southeast. Atlantic Southeast reported .985 million system passengers in January 2011.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: For previous rankings see [BTS Air Traffic Press Releases](#)

Table 4. Top 10 U.S. Airports ranked by January 2012 System* Scheduled Enplanements on U.S. Airlines**

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Jan 2012 Rank	Airport	Jan 2012 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2011 Rank	Jan 2011 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2011-2012
1	Atlanta	3.193	1	2.981	7.1
2	Chicago O'Hare	2.065	3	2.010	2.7
3	Dallas/Fort Worth	2.032	2	2.024	0.4
4	Los Angeles	1.850	5	1.756	5.3
5	Denver	1.849	4	1.866	-0.9
6	Phoenix	1.523	6	1.545	-1.4
7	Charlotte	1.521	9	1.415	7.5
8	Las Vegas	1.427	7	1.436	-0.7
9	Houston Bush	1.401	8	1.429	-2.0
10	Miami	1.364	11	1.265	7.8

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

* System equals domestic plus international

** Numbers do not include international enplanements on foreign carriers

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: For previous rankings see [BTS Air Traffic Press Releases](#)

AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE
ADD SEVEN

Table 5: Domestic Scheduled Airline Travel on U.S. Airlines

	Monthly			Previous Calendar Years		
	Jan 2011	Jan 2012	Change %	2010	2011	Change %
Passengers (in millions)	46.3	46.9	1.3	629.5	637.5	1.3
Flights (in thousands)	681.2	674.3	-1.0	8,699.1	8,644.2	-0.6
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	41.2	41.7	1.2	552.8	563.6	2.0
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	53.8	53.4	-0.7	672.5	680.1	1.1
Load Factor*	76.6	78.1	1.5	82.2	82.9	0.7
Flight Stage Length**	635.9	640.6	0.8	627.1	636.0	1.4
Passenger Trip Length***	889.5	888.3	-0.1	878.2	884.2	0.7

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

* Change in load factor points

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

*** The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Table 6. Domestic Scheduled Enplanements on U.S. Airlines
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

	2010	2011	2010-2011 Pct. Change	2012	2011-2012 Pct. Change
January	45.5	46.3	1.8	46.9	1.3
February	42.4	43.7	2.9		
March	54.4	55.6	2.2		
April	52.5	52.9	0.7		
May	53.8	56.0	4.0		
June	56.7	57.6	1.7		
July	59.1	60.2	1.8		
August	57.4	57.3	-0.2		
September	50.3	51.0	1.3		
October	54.8	54.1	-1.3		
November	51.4	51.5	0.2		
December	51.1	51.4	0.6		
Yr. Total	629.5	637.5	1.3		

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

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE
ADD EIGHT

Table 7. Top 10 U.S. Airlines, ranked by January 2012 Domestic Scheduled Enplanements
 Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Jan 2012 Rank	Carrier	Jan 2012 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2011 Rank	Jan 2011 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2011-2012
1	Southwest	8.170	1	8.307	-1.7
2	Delta	6.545	2	6.354	3.0
3	American	4.997	3	4.984	0.3
4	United*	4.984	5	3.012	65.5
5	US Airways	3.791	4	3.501	8.3
6	ExpressJet**	2.039	12	0.965	111.2
7	JetBlue	1.864	8	1.667	11.8
8	SkyWest	1.611	7	1.716	-6.1
9	AirTran	1.517	9	1.635	-7.2
10	American Eagle	1.230	11	1.141	7.8

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

* United's 2012 number is the report of the merged United and Continental. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by United and Continental. Continental reported 2.274 million domestic passengers in January 2011.

** ExpressJet's 2012 number is the report of the merged ExpressJet and Atlantic Southeast. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by ExpressJet and Atlantic Southeast. Atlantic Southeast reported .965 million domestic passengers in January 2011.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: For previous rankings see [BTS Air Traffic Press Releases](#)

Table 8. Top 10 U.S. Airports, ranked by January 2012 Domestic Scheduled Enplanements
 Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Jan 2012 Rank	Airport	Jan 2012 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2011 Rank	Jan 2011 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2011-2012
1	Atlanta	2.886	1	2.678	7.8
2	Chicago O'Hare	1.856	4	1.776	4.5
3	Dallas/Fort Worth	1.854	2	1.844	0.5
4	Denver	1.800	3	1.808	-0.4
5	Los Angeles	1.693	5	1.610	5.2
6	Phoenix	1.455	6	1.474	-1.3
7	Charlotte	1.427	8	1.315	8.6
8	Las Vegas	1.425	7	1.435	-0.7
9	Orlando	1.248	9	1.278	-2.3
10	San Francisco	1.166	11	1.077	8.2

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

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: For previous rankings see [BTS Air Traffic Press Releases](#)

AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE
ADD NINE

Table 9: International Scheduled Airline Travel on U.S. Airlines

	Monthly			Previous Calendar Years		
	Jan 2011	Jan 2012	Change %	2010	2011	Change %
Passengers (millions)	7.4	7.4	-0.4	91.0	92.5	1.7
Flights (thousands)	70.3	69.7	-0.8	822.1	830.9	1.1
Revenue Passenger Miles (billions)	19.5	19.4	-0.7	245.2	250.7	2.2
Available Seat-Miles (billions)	25.5	25.3	-1.1	300.1	312.6	4.1
Load Factor*	76.5	76.7	0.2	81.7	80.2	-1.5
Flight Stage Length**	1,807.6	1,812.4	0.3	1,808.2	1,857.4	2.7
Passenger Trip Length***	2,644.7	2,636.8	-0.3	2,695.6	2,709.3	0.5

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

*Change in load factor points

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

*** The average distance flown per passenger in miles

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Table 10: International Scheduled Enplanements on U.S. Airlines
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

	2010	2011	2010-2011 Pct. Change	2012	2011- 2012 Pct. Change
January	7.0	7.4	4.8	7.4	-0.4
February	6.2	6.4	2.9		
March	7.8	7.9	1.7		
April	7.2	7.7	7.1		
May	7.6	7.9	3.2		
June	8.3	8.5	1.7		
July	9.3	9.6	3.3		
August	8.9	8.9	0.1		
September	7.0	7.1	0.5		
October	7.3	7.1	-3.0		
November	6.7	6.6	-1.9		
December	7.5	7.5	0.3		
Yr. Total	91.0	92.5	1.7		

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

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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AIRLINE TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE
ADD TEN

Table 11. Top 10 U.S. Airlines, ranked by January 2012 International Scheduled Enplanements

Passenger numbers in thousands (000)

Jan 2012 Rank	Carrier	Jan 2012 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2011 Rank	Jan 2011 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2011-2012
1	United*	1,975.7	4	860.4	129.6
2	American	1,773.0	1	1,722.4	2.9
3	Delta	1,539.5	2	1,601.1	-3.8
4	US Airways	500.1	5	526.8	-5.1
5	JetBlue	299.7	6	246.5	21.6
6	ExpressJet**	191.4	24	20.5	834.9
7	Alaska	163.5	7	155.6	5.0
8	Spirit	105.0	9	116.9	-10.2
9	American Eagle	92.2	11	85.7	7.6
10	SkyWest	91.6	8	124.3	-26.3

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

* United's 2012 number is the report of the merged United and Continental. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by United and Continental. Continental reported 1179.3 thousand international passengers in January 2011.

** ExpressJet's 2012 number is the report of the merged ExpressJet and Atlantic Southeast. The 2011 numbers were reported separately by ExpressJet and Atlantic Southeast. Atlantic Southeast reported 20.5 thousand international passengers in January 2011.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: For previous rankings see [BTS Air Traffic Press Releases](#)

Table 12. Top 10 U.S. Airports, ranked by January 2012 International Scheduled Enplanements on U.S. Airlines*

Passenger numbers in thousands (000)

Jan 2012 Rank	Airport	Jan 2012 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2011 Rank	Jan 2011 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2011-2012
1	Miami	504.5	1	463.8	8.8
2	New York JFK	327.8	2	329.2	-0.4
3	Atlanta	307.0	3	302.6	1.5
4	Newark	296.2	4	299.4	-1.1
5	Houston Bush	271.2	5	288.2	-5.9
6	Chicago O'Hare	208.6	6	233.4	-10.6
7	Dallas/Fort Worth	178.4	7	179.4	-0.5
8	Los Angeles	156.7	8	146.8	6.7
9	San Francisco	125.6	10	118.4	6.0
10	Washington Dulles	112.0	9	119.0	-5.9

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

* Numbers do not include international enplanements on foreign carriers

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: For previous rankings see [BTS Air Traffic Press Releases](#)

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