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## **May 2008 Passenger Airline Employment Up 0.8 Percent from May 2007**

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines employed 0.8 percent more workers in May 2008 than in May 2007, the 16th consecutive increase in full-time equivalent employee (FTE) levels for the scheduled passenger carriers from the same month of the previous year but the smallest year-to-year increase since March 2007, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today (Table 2). FTE calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

The seven network carriers all added FTEs from May 2007 to May 2008 (Table 9). All of the currently reporting low-cost carriers (Table 12) and regional carriers American Eagle Airlines, Pinnacle Airlines, Mesaba Airlines, Executive Airlines, Air Wisconsin Airlines, Republic Airlines, Shuttle America and GoJet Airlines (Table 15) increased their FTEs compared to last year.

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 283,628 FTEs in May, 68.2 percent of the passenger airline total, while low-cost carriers employed 14.8 percent and regional carriers also employed 14.8 percent (Table 4).

American Airlines employed the most FTEs in May 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. 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.

## **AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE**

### **ADD ONE**

The merged airline, listed in the network category, reported 33,088 FTEs for May 2008. In May 2007, US Airways reported 20,393 FTEs in the network category and America West reported 12,480 FTEs in the low-cost category for a total of 32,873.

#### **Network Airlines**

FTEs at the seven network carriers increased 6.7 percent in May 2008 compared to May 2007, the 13th consecutive monthly gain from the same month of the previous year. Prior to an increase in May 2007, the network group had reduced FTEs from the previous year every month since September 2001 (Table 7).

Every network carrier increased FTEs from May 2007 to May 2008. The year-to-year increases were US Airways 62.3 percent, Delta Air Lines 4.8 percent, Alaska Airlines 5.8 percent, Continental Airlines 2.1 percent, Northwest Airlines 1.1 percent, United Airlines 0.8 percent and American 0.1 percent (Table 9).

FTEs at five network carriers declined during the four years from May 2004 to May 2008. The exceptions were Continental with a 5.8 percent increase and the newly combined US Airways with a 27.6 percent gain (Table 8). The biggest percentage decline was at Northwest, down 23.6 percent, a reduction of 9,053 FTEs, followed by Delta at 16.1 percent. The other FTE decreases during that time were United, down 12.0 percent, American, down 7.5 percent and Alaska, down 0.6 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 have decreased for eight consecutive months through May compared to the same month of the previous year (Tables 10, 11).

Although the merger resulted in a year-to-year decline for the group, all the carriers remaining in the low-cost group for May 2008 had FTE increases from May 2007. Spirit Airlines reported an increase of 16.3 percent. ATA Airlines, which reported 2,408 FTEs in May 2007, stopped operating on April 3 and ceased reporting employment data effective in March (Table 12).

Employment data for Independence Air, which changed its business model from a regional to low-cost carrier in mid-2004 and ceased operation in January 2006, have been included with low-cost carriers for 2004 and 2005.

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 August. SkyBus ceased operations on April 5. Virgin America reported 1,123 FTE employees in May 2008 (Table 12).

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## **AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE ADD TWO**

### **Regional Airlines**

Regional carrier FTEs were up 1.3 percent in May 2008 compared to May 2007 (Table 13).

Republic and Air Wisconsin reported the largest increases in the group. Republic employed 59.8 percent more FTEs in May 2008 than May 2007, while Air Wisconsin employed 27.7 percent more (Table 15).

Regional carrier FTEs rose from 56,874 in May 2005 to 61,358 in May 2008, an increase of 7.9 percent (Table 14).

The 11 regional carriers reporting employment data in both 2004 and 2008 employed 13.2 percent more FTEs in May 2008 than in May 2004. Of that group, Pinnacle reported the biggest gain, 62.9 percent, followed by SkyWest Airlines at 53.0 percent and ExpressJet at 18.9 percent. Atlantic Southeast Airlines, Air Wisconsin, Mesa Airlines, and Executive reported fewer FTEs in May 2008 than May 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 1,278 FTEs in May 2007.

Regional carrier Compass Airlines began reporting employment data in November 2007. Compass reported 551 FTEs in May (Table 15). Regional carrier Lynx Airlines began reporting employment data in February 2008. Lynx reported 345 FTEs in May (Table 15). Regional carrier Colgan Airlines began reporting employment data in April 2008. Colgan reported 1,348 FTEs in May (Table 15).

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

### **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 July 9.

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 June airline employment data for Aug. 19.

**AIRLINE EMPLOYMENT PRESS RELEASE**  
**ADD THREE**

**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**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Network Carriers** (Pct. Change) From Table 7</b>	<b>Low-Cost Carriers*** (Pct. Change) From Table 10</b>	<b>Regional Carriers (Pct. Change) From Table 13</b>	<b>All Passenger Airlines**** (Pct. Change) From Table 2</b>
May 2006-May 2007	0.3	5.3	7.2	2.2
June 2006-June 2007	1.3	5.3	5.1	2.5
July 2006-July 2007	1.5	5.9	4.8	2.8
Aug. 2006-Aug. 2007	1.5	5.3	4.9	2.6
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
<b>May 2007-May 2008</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>-15.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.8</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.

\*\*\*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.

\*\*\*\* 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.

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**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
<b>May</b>	-3.5	-4.9	2.2	<b>0.8</b>
June	-3.8	-4.8	2.5	
July	-3.5	-5.9	2.8	
August	-5.8	-3.1	2.6	
September	-5.8	-2.6	3.0	
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
<b>May</b>	439.6	424.4	403.6	412.4	<b>415.6</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>0.8</b>
June	440.9	424.3	403.8	414.0			
July	444.1	428.5	403.3	414.6			
August	443.0	417.5	404.7	415.4			
September	440.0	414.5	403.7	416.3			
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-May Average</b>	<b>436.7</b>	<b>427.3</b>	<b>404.7</b>	<b>408.2</b>	<b>416.5</b>	<b>-4.6</b>	<b>2.0</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, May 2004-2008**

FTE Numbers in thousands (000's)

	Network**	Low-Cost**	Regional	All Passenger Airlines***
<b>2004</b>	305.0	71.3	51.2	439.6
<b>2005</b>	285.8	70.5	56.9	424.4
<b>2006</b>	265.8	69.1	56.5	403.6
<b>2007</b>	266.6	72.7	60.6	412.4
<b>2008</b>	283.6	61.5	61.4	415.6
<b>Pct. Change 2004-2008****</b>	<b>-7.0%</b>	<b>-13.7%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>
<b>Percent of Total Passenger Airline Employees in 2008</b>	<b>68.2%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>14.8%</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, May 2004-2008**

Percent Change from the previous year

	Network**	Low-Cost**	Regional***	All Passenger Airlines****
<b>2004</b>	-4.9	0.8	N/A	N/A
<b>2005</b>	-6.6	-1.0	N/A	N/A
<b>2006</b>	-7.0	-2.1	-0.6	-4.9
<b>2007</b>	0.3	5.3	7.2	2.2
<b>2008</b>	6.4	-15.4	1.3	0.8

**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.

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

Rank	Airline	Total FTE Employees (000)	Carrier Group**	Top 10 Airlines May 2007
1	American	73.3	Network	American
2	United	52.2	Network	United
3	Delta	48.8	Network	Delta
4	Continental	36.8	Network	Continental
5	Southwest	33.9	Low Cost	Southwest
6	US Airways	33.1	Network	Northwest
7	Northwest	29.4	Network	US Airways
8	JetBlue	10.6	Low Cost	America West
9	Alaska	10.1	Network	SkyWest
10	American Eagle	9.7	Regional	JetBlue

**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
<b>May</b>	-6.6	-7.0	0.3	<b>6.7</b>
June	-7.0	-6.8	1.3	
July	-5.9	-8.1	1.5	
August	-9.0	-4.7	1.5	
September	-8.9	-4.1	1.8	
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
<b>May</b>	306.0	285.8	265.8	266.6	<b>283.6</b>	<b>-7.3</b>	<b>6.4</b>
June	306.1	284.8	265.3	268.6			
July	306.3	288.2	264.9	268.7			
August	305.3	277.8	264.8	268.8			
September	302.4	275.4	264.0	268.8			
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-May Average</b>	<b>305.2</b>	<b>288.9</b>	<b>267.5</b>	<b>264.0</b>	<b>283.1</b>	<b>-7.2%</b>	<b>7.2%</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\*, May 2004-2008\*\*  
(Ranked by May 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	76.1	73.8	73.2	73.3	<b>-7.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>
2	<b>United</b>	59.3	55.2	53.6	51.8	52.2	<b>-12.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>
3	<b>Delta</b>	58.2	53.2	45.2	46.6	48.8	<b>-16.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>
4	<b>Continental</b>	34.8	32.7	34.4	36.0	36.8	<b>5.8</b>	<b>2.1</b>
5	<b>US Airways</b>	25.9	22.1	19.2	20.4	33.1	<b>27.6</b>	<b>62.3</b>
6	<b>Northwest</b>	38.4	37.7	30.3	29.1	29.4	<b>-23.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>
7	<b>Alaska</b>	10.2	8.9	9.3	9.5	10.1	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>306.0</b>	<b>285.8</b>	<b>265.5</b>	<b>266.6</b>	<b>283.6</b>	<b>-7.3</b>	<b>6.4</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**  
**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	0.5	-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
<b>May</b>	-1.0	-2.1	5.3	<b>-15.4</b>
June	-1.2	-2.0	5.3	
July	-1.5	-2.6	5.9	
August	-0.7	-0.8	5.3	
September	-1.0	-0.4	6.0	
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 May 3, 2008 and stopped reporting employment data effective in March.

Note: 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.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**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	71.2	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
<b>May</b>	71.3	70.5	69.1	72.7	<b>61.5</b>	<b>-13.7</b>	<b>-15.4</b>
June	71.7	70.8	69.4	73.1			
July	72.4	71.3	69.4	73.5			
August	71.6	71.1	70.5	74.2			
September	71.3	70.6	70.3	74.5			
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>71.3</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>70.4</b>			
<b>Jan-May Average</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>70.8</b>	<b>68.7</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>-12.8</b>	<b>-14.0</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 May 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,\* May 2004-2008\*\*  
(Ranked by May 2008 FTEs)**

Rank		2004***	2005***	2006	2007****	2008	Percent Change	
							2004-2008	2007-2008
1	<b>Southwest</b>	31,402	31,242	31,684	33,230	33,909	<b>8.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>
2	<b>JetBlue</b>	5,738	7,248	9,580	9,600	10,611	<b>84.9</b>	<b>10.5</b>
3	<b>AirTran</b>	5,506	6,181	7,030	7,986	8,265	<b>50.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>
4	<b>Frontier</b>	3,906	4,066	4,423	4,883	5,093	<b>30.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>
5	<b>Spirit</b>	2,440	2,049	1,978	2,151	2,501	<b>2.5</b>	<b>16.3</b>
6	<b>Virgin America****</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,123	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
7	<b>ATA</b>	6,900	4,521	2,722	2,408	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
8	<b>SkyBus*****</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
9	<b>Independence</b>	3,911	3,252	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
10	<b>America West</b>	11,468	11,976	11,663	12,480	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>71,271</b>	<b>70,535</b>	<b>69,080</b>	<b>72,738</b>	<b>61,502</b>	<b>-13.7</b>	<b>-15.4</b>

**Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics**

\* 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's numbers in the network category. For US Airways previous year numbers and for the combined number in the network category, see Table 9.

\*\*\*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 carrier did not meet the standard for filing in previous years. The airline discontinued flights on Jan. 5, 2006.

\*\*\*\* Virgin America and SkyBus began reporting employment data in August 2007

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

\*\*\*\*\* SkyBus ceased operating on May 5, 2008 and stopped reporting employment data effective in May.

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
<b>May</b>	11.1	-0.6	7.2	<b>1.3</b>
June	11.0	-1.6	5.1	
July	6.0	-0.8	4.8	
August	5.1	-1.0	4.9	
September	4.3	-0.3	5.2	
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
<b>May</b>	51.2	56.9	56.5	60.6	<b>61.4</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>
June	51.9	57.6	57.0	59.9			
July	54.3	57.6	57.1	59.9			
August	55.0	57.8	57.2	60.2			
September	55.2	57.6	57.4	60.7			
October	55.8	57.4	57.7	61.2			
November	55.6	56.8	58.1	61.1			
December	55.3	56.3	58.2	61.1			
<b>12-Month Average</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>60.3</b>			
<b>Jan-May Average</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>8.2</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.

\*\* 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\*, May 2004-2008  
(Ranked by May 2008 FTEs)**

Rank		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change**	
							2004-2008	2007-2008
1	<b>American Eagle</b>	8,402	9,475	9,226	9,428	<b>9,733</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>3.2</b>
2	<b>SkyWest</b>	6,230	7,582	7,806	9,786	<b>9,534</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>-2.6</b>
3	<b>ExpressJet</b>	6,134	6,472	6,611	7,689	<b>7,294</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>-5.1</b>
4	<b>Comair</b>	5,822	6,429	6,207	6,164	<b>5,902</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-4.3</b>
5	<b>Atlantic Southeast</b>	5,691	5,487	5,398	5,592	<b>4,545</b>	<b>-20.1</b>	<b>-18.7</b>
6	<b>Horizon</b>	3,361	3,406	3,526	3,797	<b>3,785</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
7	<b>Pinnacle</b>	2,157	2,964	3,005	3,382	<b>3,514</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>
8	<b>Mesaba</b>	2,993	3,303	2,953	2,595	<b>3,160</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>21.8</b>
9	<b>Mesa</b>	3,605	3,295	3,184	3,208	<b>2,929</b>	<b>-18.8</b>	<b>-8.7</b>
10	<b>Air Wisconsin</b>	3,488	3,492	2,251	2,259	<b>2,884</b>	<b>-17.3</b>	<b>27.7</b>
11	<b>Executive</b>	1,916	1,787	1,779	1,680	<b>1,724</b>	<b>-10.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>
12	<b>Republic</b>	N/A	N/A	543	924	<b>1,477</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>59.8</b>
13	<b>Colgan</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>1,348</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
14	<b>Shuttle America</b>	N/A	N/A	812	1,070	<b>1,147</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>7.2</b>
15	<b>PSA</b>	N/A	1,712	1,484	1,428	<b>1,139</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-20.2</b>
16	<b>Compass</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>551</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
17	<b>GoJet</b>	N/A	N/A	306	313	<b>351</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>12.1</b>
18	<b>Lynx</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>345</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
19	<b>Trans States</b>	1,399	1,472	1,437	1,278	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>51,198</b>	<b>56,876</b>	<b>56,528</b>	<b>60,593</b>	<b>61,362</b>	<b>13.2</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.

\*\* 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 11 carriers reporting in both years.

\*\*\* Effective with May 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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