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BTS Data

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January 2010 Airline Traffic Data: System Traffic Up 1.5 Percent from January 2009

U.S. airlines carried 52.6 million scheduled domestic and international passengers in January 2010, 1.5 percent more than they did in January 2009, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) today reported in a release of preliminary data (Table 1). The January 2010 passenger total was 8.8 percent below that of January 2008 (Table 2).

BTS, a part of DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration, in a release of preliminary data, reported that U.S. airlines carried 1.6 percent more domestic passengers and 1.2 percent more international passengers in January 2010 than in January 2009 (Tables 5, 9). The system, domestic and international load factors in January 2010 were all the highest ever for the month of January.

Additional traffic numbers can be found on the [BTS website](#) in the Airline Industry box. Click on a link in the column on the right. For more historic numbers, see [Traffic](#) on the BTS website.

Top Airlines in January

In January, Delta Air Lines carried more total system passengers than any other U.S. airline (Table 3). Southwest Airlines carried the most domestic passengers and American Airlines carried the most international passengers in January (Table 7, 11). See notes under Tables 3, 7 and 11 for more details on Delta's January report.

Top Airports in January

More total system and domestic passengers boarded planes in January 2010 at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International than at any other U.S. airport (Tables 4, 8). More international passengers boarded U.S. carriers at Miami International than at any other U.S. airport (Table 12).

Flights Operated

U.S. carriers operated 761,900 domestic and international flights in January 2010, 2.0 percent fewer than in January 2009 (Table 1). Domestic flights were down 2.2 percent from January 2009 while international flights declined 0.3 percent (Tables 5, 9).

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For other comparisons from January 2009 to January 2010, see the following tables:

System Comparisons (Tables 1-4)

Table 1 (January and previous calendar years):

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 2008

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

Domestic Air Travel (Tables 5-8)

Table 5 (January and previous calendar years):

Domestic revenue passenger-miles (RPMs)

Domestic available seat-miles (ASMs)

Domestic passenger load factor

Domestic flight stage length

Domestic passenger trip length

Table 6

Domestic scheduled enplanements on U.S. airlines by month since January 2008

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

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International Air Travel (Tables 9-12)

Table 9 (January and previous calendar years):
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 2008

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

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 83 carriers as of April 6 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.

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TranStats system and international totals do not include U.S. carriers' foreign point-to-point flights. For January, U.S. carriers reported 233,849 foreign point-to-point passengers.

Data are subject to revision. BTS has scheduled May 13 for the release of February traffic data.

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

	Monthly			Previous Calendar Years		Change %
	Jan 2009	Jan 2010	Change %	2008	2009	
Passengers (in millions)	51.8	52.6	1.5	743.3	703.9	-5.3
Flights (in thousands)	777.9	761.9	-2.0	10,223.9	9,552.5	-6.6
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	57.4	58.7	2.2	812.4	769.5	-5.3
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	78.7	77.6	-1.4	1,021.3	957.2	-6.3
Load Factor*	72.9	75.6	2.7	79.5	80.4	0.9
Flight Stage Length**	720.3	729.0	1.2	718.9	717.4	-0.2
Passenger Trip Length***	1,108.5	1,116.3	0.7	1,092.9	1,093.1	0.0

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)

	2008	2009	2008- 2009 Pct. Change	2010	2009- 2010 Pct. Change
January	57.7	51.8	-10.2	52.6	1.5
February	57.1	49.8	-12.6		
March	67.7	61.0	-10.0		
April	63.2	59.5	-5.8		
May	66.0	59.7	-9.5		
June	68.0	63.6	-6.5		
July	70.5	68.1	-3.4		
August	67.8	65.0	-4.1		
September	54.2	54.7	0.8		
October	59.7	58.8	-1.4		
November	54.1	54.8	1.5		
December	57.4	57.0	-0.6		
Yr. Total	743.3	703.9	-5.3		

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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Table 3. Top 10 U.S. Airlines, ranked by January 2009 System* Scheduled Enplanements
Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Jan 2010 Rank	Carrier	Jan 2010 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2009 Rank	Jan 2009 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2009-2010
1	Delta**	7.832	3	5.262	48.8
2	Southwest	7.576	1	6.994	8.3
3	American	6.699	2	6.697	0.0
4	United	4.100	4	4.212	-2.7
5	US Airways	3.883	5	4.048	-4.1
6	Continental	3.320	6	3.249	2.2
7	JetBlue	1.749	9	1.660	5.4
8	SkyWest	1.743	10	1.496	16.5
9	AirTran	1.710	8	1.667	2.6
10	American Eagle	1.182	12	1.071	10.4

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, T-100 Market

* System equals domestic plus international

** Delta filed separate passenger numbers for Delta and Northwest for January. BTS combined the numbers because Delta began operating in January with a single operating certificate following completion of the merger between the two airlines. BTS' TranStats database will show separate T-100, T-1, T-2 and T-3 traffic numbers for Delta and Northwest until Delta refiles a joint report. Northwest reported 3.132 million system passengers in January 2009.

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 2009 System* Scheduled Enplanements on U.S. Airlines**

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Jan 2010 Rank	Airport	Jan 2010 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2009 Rank	Jan 2009 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2009-2010
1	Atlanta	3.027	1	3.162	-4.3
2	Chicago O'Hare	2.063	2	2.008	2.8
3	Dallas/Ft. Worth	1.995	3	1.939	2.9
4	Denver	1.784	4	1.726	3.3
5	Los Angeles	1.671	5	1.554	7.5
6	Phoenix	1.463	6	1.437	1.8
7	Houston Bush	1.426	7	1.405	1.5
8	Las Vegas	1.354	8	1.362	-0.6
9	Charlotte	1.303	9	1.302	0.0
10	Orlando	1.253	10	1.225	2.3

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](#)

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

	Monthly			Previous Calendar Years		
	Jan 2009	Jan 2010	Change %	2008	2009	Change %
Passengers (in millions)	44.8	45.5	1.6	651.7	618.1	-5.2
Flights (in thousands)	709.0	693.3	-2.2	9,373.7	8,753.1	-6.6
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	39.3	40.3	2.6	568.2	539.1	-5.1
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	54.0	53.8	-0.3	712.3	664.7	-6.7
Load Factor*	72.8	74.9	2.1	79.8	81.1	1.3
Flight Stage Length**	618.5	628.8	1.7	622.4	618.5	-0.6
Passenger Trip Length***	876.9	885.7	1.0	871.9	872.1	0.0

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)

	2008	2009	2008- 2009 Pct. Change	2010	2009- 2010 Pct. Change
January	50.2	44.8	-10.8	45.5	1.6
February	50.1	43.7	-12.9		
March	59.2	53.5	-9.6		
April	55.6	52.2	-6.1		
May	58.0	52.9	-8.8		
June	59.6	55.9	-6.2		
July	61.4	59.5	-3.2		
August	59.0	56.6	-4.1		
September	47.7	48.2	1.2		
October	53.0	52.3	-1.3		
November	47.7	48.6	2.0		
December	50.2	49.9	0.7		
Yr. Total	651.7	618.1	-5.2		

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

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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Table 7. Top 10 U.S. Airlines, ranked by January 2009 Domestic Scheduled Enplanements

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Jan 2010 Rank	Carrier	Jan 2010 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2009 Rank	Jan 2009 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2009-2010
1	Southwest	7.576	1	6.994	8.3
2	Delta*	6.270	3	4.351	44.1
3	American	5.071	2	5.047	0.5
4	US Airways	3.380	4	3.532	-4.3
5	United	3.257	5	3.379	-3.6
6	Continental	2.296	7	2.325	-1.2
7	AirTran	1.665	8	1.657	0.5
8	SkyWest	1.642	10	1.408	16.6
9	JetBlue	1.537	9	1.513	1.6
10	American Eagle	1.105	11	1.000	10.5

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

* Delta filed separate passenger numbers for Delta and Northwest for January. BTS combined the numbers because Delta began operating in January with a single operating certificate following completion of the merger between the two airlines. BTS' TranStats database will show separate T-100, T-1, T-2 and T-3 traffic numbers for Delta and Northwest until Delta refiles a joint report. Northwest reported 2.362 million domestic passengers in January 2009.

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 2009 Domestic Scheduled Enplanements

Passenger numbers in millions (000,000)

Jan 2010 Rank	Airport	Jan 2010 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2009 Rank	Jan 2009 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2009-2010
1	Atlanta	2.731	1	2.849	-4.1
2	Chicago O'Hare	1.839	3	1.780	3.3
3	Dallas/Ft. Worth	1.829	2	1.784	2.6
4	Denver	1.726	4	1.666	3.6
5	Los Angeles	1.536	5	1.431	7.4
6	Phoenix	1.394	6	1.368	1.9
7	Las Vegas	1.353	7	1.351	0.2
8	Orlando	1.238	9	1.217	1.8
9	Charlotte	1.216	8	1.217	-0.1
10	Houston Bush	1.158	10	1.152	0.5

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](#)

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

	Monthly			Previous Calendar Years		
	Jan 2009	Jan 2010	Change %	2008	2009	Change %
Passengers (in millions)	7.0	7.1	1.2	91.6	85.8	-6.3
Flights (in thousands)	68.8	68.6	-0.3	850.3	799.4	-6.0
Revenue Passenger Miles (in billions)	18.1	18.4	1.5	244.1	230.4	-5.6
Available Seat-Miles (in billions)	24.7	23.8	-3.9	309.0	292.5	-5.4
Load Factor*	73.3	77.3	4.0	79.0	78.8	-0.2
Flight Stage Length**	1,769.6	1,741.6	-1.6	1,783.1	1,801.0	1.0
Passenger Trip Length***	2,594.1	2,600.4	0.2	2,665.0	2,684.1	0.7

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)

	2008	2009	2008-2009 Pct. Change	2010	2009-2010 Pct. Change
January	7.5	7.0	-6.4	7.1	1.2
February	6.9	6.2	-11.1		
March	8.5	7.4	-12.5		
April	7.6	7.3	-3.8		
May	8.0	6.8	-14.8		
June	8.4	7.7	-8.6		
July	9.1	8.6	-4.8		
August	8.9	8.5	-4.5		
September	6.6	6.4	-1.7		
October	6.7	6.5	-2.8		
November	6.4	6.3	-2.3		
December	7.1	7.2	0.3		
Yr. Total	91.6	85.8	-6.3		

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

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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Table 11. Top 10 U.S. Airlines, ranked by January 2009 International Scheduled Enplanements
Passenger numbers in thousands (000)

Jan 2010 Rank	Carrier	Jan 2010 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2009 Rank	Jan 2009 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2009-2010
1	American	1,627.4	1	1,649.8	-1.4
2	Delta*	1,562.4	3	910.8	71.5
3	Continental	1,023.7	2	924.2	10.8
4	United	842.7	4	832.6	1.2
5	US Airways	502.6	6	515.8	-2.6
6	JetBlue	212.7	8	147.1	44.6
7	Alaska	154.1	7	153.5	0.4
8	ExpressJet	151.0	9	130.2	15.9
9	Executive	109.3	11	93.0	17.6
10	SkyWest	101.3	13	88.9	13.9

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

* Delta filed separate passenger numbers for Delta and Northwest for January. BTS combined the numbers because Delta began operating in January with a single operating certificate following completion of the merger between the two airlines. BTS' TranStats database will show separate T-100, T-1, T-2 and T-3 traffic numbers for Delta and Northwest until Delta refiles a joint report. Northwest reported 769.5 thousand domestic passengers in January 2009.

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 2009 International Scheduled Enplanements on U.S. Airlines*
Passenger numbers in thousands (000)

Jan 2010 Rank	Airport	Jan 2010 Enplaned Passengers	Jan 2009 Rank	Jan 2009 Enplaned Passengers	Pct. Change 2009-2010
1	Miami	433.6	1	430.1	0.8
2	Newark	310.1	4	274.9	12.8
3	New York JFK	299.1	3	293.6	1.9
4	Atlanta	295.7	2	312.6	-5.4
5	Houston Bush	268.4	5	252.8	6.2
6	Chicago O'Hare	223.7	6	227.3	-1.6
7	Dallas/Ft. Worth	165.9	7	155.9	6.4
8	Los Angeles	134.8	8	123.5	9.2
9	Washington Dulles	123.4	9	117.8	4.7
10	San Francisco	107.0	10	112.5	-4.9

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](#)