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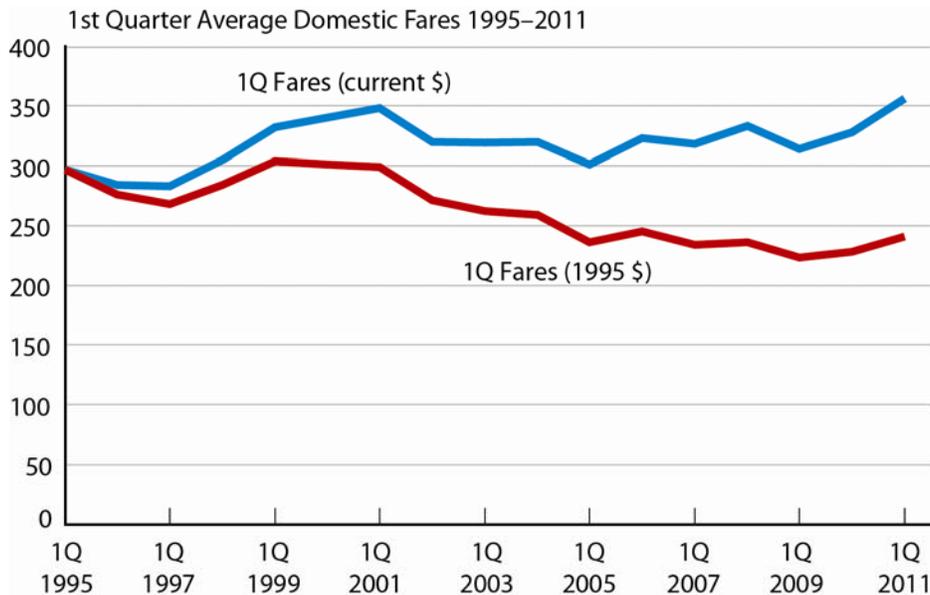
BTS Data

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Contact: Dave Smallen
Tel: 202-366-5568

1st-Quarter 2011 Domestic Air Fares Rose 8.4% from 1st Quarter 2010

Top 100 Airports: Highest Fare at Houston Bush, Lowest Fare at Atlantic City

Domestic Air Fares



Average domestic air fares rose to \$356 in the first quarter of 2011, up 8.4 percent from the average fare of \$328 in the first quarter of 2010 (Table 1), the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today. Houston Bush, TX, had the highest average fare, \$477, while Atlantic City, NJ, had the lowest, \$172 (Table 3).

First-quarter fares increased 5.7 percent from the fourth quarter of 2010, the first increase after two quarterly declines (Table 2). Quarter-to-quarter changes may be affected by seasonal factors.

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BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reports average fares based on domestic itinerary fares, round-trip or one-way for which no return is purchased. Fares are based on the total ticket value which consists of the price charged by the airlines plus any additional taxes and fees levied by an outside entity at the time of purchase. Fares include only the price paid at the time of the ticket purchase and do not include other fees, such as baggage fees, paid at the airport or onboard the aircraft. Averages do not include frequent-flyer or “zero fares” or a few abnormally high reported fares.

Not inflation-adjusted, the \$356 first-quarter 2011 average fares were up 2.3 percent from the previous first-quarter high of \$348 in 2001. Following the economic slowdown of 2001 and 9/11, unadjusted first-quarter fares dropped, reaching as low as \$301 in 2005. First-quarter 2011 fares were up 18.0 percent from the 2005 low, not adjusted for inflation (Table 6).

First-quarter 2011 fares, not adjusted for inflation, were the highest for any first quarter since 1995 and the second highest of any quarter. The post-1995 high was \$359 in the third quarter of 2008. Adjusted for inflation, first-quarter 2011 fares in 1995 dollars were \$241, down 20.8 percent from the first quarter of 1999, which, at \$304 was the inflation-adjusted high for any first quarter since 1995 (Table 1). BTS air fare records reach back to 1995. See [BTS Air Fare web page](#) for historic data.

Passenger airlines collected 71.3 percent of their total revenue from passenger fares during 2010 (Table 1A).

Air fares in the first quarter of 2011 increased 2.3 percent from the first quarter of 2001, compared to an overall increase in consumer prices of 26.8 percent during that period. In the 16 years from 1995, the first year of BTS air fare records, air fares rose 19.8 percent compared to a 47.6 percent inflation rate (Table 6). The average inflation-adjusted first-quarter 2011 fare in 1995 dollars was \$241 compared to \$297 in 1995 and \$299 in 2001 (Table 1).

See tables below for the following information about the [top 100 airports](#) based on 2010 originating passengers.

Table 3: Five highest and five lowest average fares in the first quarter: Houston Bush had the highest average fare, \$477, while Atlantic City had the lowest, \$172. For the Top 100 Airports, see [Table 8](#) on the BTS website.

Table 4: Five largest increases and five largest decreases from the first quarter of 2010 to the first quarter of 2011: Madison, WI, had the largest increase, 17.5 percent, and Atlantic City had the largest decrease, 8.5 percent. For the Top 100 Airports, see [Table 9](#) on the BTS website.

Table 5: Five largest increases and five largest decreases from the first quarter of 2001 to the first quarter of 2011: Dallas Love, TX, had the largest increase, 44.8 percent, and White Plains, NY, had the largest decrease, 46.6 percent. For the Top 100 Airports, see [Table 10](#) on the BTS website.

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See the [BTS Air Fare web page](#) for average fares for the top 100 airports. Rankings can also be found on the [BTS website](#). Updated passenger rankings for 2010 resulted in the addition of Bellingham, WA, and Greenville-Spartanburg, SC, to the top 100 list and the removal of Lubbock, TX, and Moline, IL. Fares for Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico airports, which are not included in rankings, are available on the web page. Average fares for [all airports](#) are also available. Since average fares are based on the [Origin and Destination Survey](#) 10 percent ticket sample, averages for airports with smaller samples may be less reliable.

Second-quarter 2011 average fare data will be released on Oct. 26.

Table 1: 1st Quarter Average Fares 1995-2011 Compared to Inflation Rate

Fares based on domestic itinerary fares, round-trip or one-way for which no return is purchased. Fares are based on the total ticket value which consists of the price charged by the airlines plus any additional taxes and fees levied by an outside entity at the time of purchase. Fares include only the price paid at the time of the ticket purchase and do not include other fees, such as baggage fees, paid at the airport or onboard the aircraft. Averages do not include frequent-flyer or “zero fares” or a few abnormally high reported fares. Averages do not include frequent flyer fares.

	Percent change from previous year			Percent change from 1995		
	Average Domestic 1Q Fares (\$)	Average Fares (1Q to 1Q)	Inflation (Mar from previous Mar)*	Cumulative Average Fares (1Q 1995 to 1Q of each year)	Cumulative inflation rate (Mar of each year from Mar 1995)*	Average Fare in 1995 dollars
1995	297					297
1996	284	-4.4	2.8	-4.4	2.8	276
1997	283	-0.2	2.8	-4.5	5.7	268
1998	305	7.5	1.4	2.6	7.1	284
1999	332	8.9	1.7	11.7	9.0	304
2000	340	2.6	3.8	14.6	13.1	301
2001	348	2.2	2.9	17.1	16.4	299
2002	320	-8.0	1.5	7.8	18.1	271
2003	319	-0.3	3.0	7.5	21.7	262
2004	320	0.3	1.7	7.9	23.8	259
2005	301	-5.9	3.1	1.5	27.7	236
2006	323	7.3	3.4	8.9	32.0	245
2007	318	-1.7	2.8	7.1	35.6	234
2008	333	4.9	4.0	12.3	41.0	236
2009	314	-5.8	-0.4	5.7	40.5	223
2010	328	4.6	2.3	10.5	43.7	228
2011	356	8.4	2.7	19.8	47.6	241

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Rate calculated using Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index.

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

**AIR TRAVEL PRICE INDEX PRESS RELEASE
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Table 1A Passenger Airline Revenue from Fares 1990-2010

Revenue from Passenger Fares as Percent of Scheduled Passenger Airline Total Revenue*

Year	Revenue from Passenger Fares as Percent of Total Scheduled Passenger Airline Revenue* (%)
1990	87.6
1995	85.6
2000	84.1
2001	82.7
2002	82.3
2003	79.5
2004	76.6
2005	75.0
2006	74.4
2007	74.3
2008	72.9
2009	70.2
2010	71.3

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, P-12

* Scheduled passenger airline total revenue is the sum of the following Schedule P12 accounts with account numbers: Reservation cancellation fees (3919.1), Baggage fees (3906.2), Miscellaneous Operating Revenue (3919.2), Transport-Related Revenue (4898) and Passenger Revenue (Fares) (3901).

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Table 2: Quarterly Change in Average Domestic Airline Fares

Percent Change by Quarter

Fares based on domestic itinerary fares, round-trip or one-way for which no return is purchased. Fares are based on the total ticket value which consists of the price charged by the airlines plus any additional taxes and fees levied by an outside entity at the time of purchase. Fares include only the price paid at the time of the ticket purchase and do not include other fees, such as baggage fees, paid at the airport or onboard the aircraft. Averages do not include frequent-flyer or “zero fares” or a few abnormally high reported fares.

	Average Domestic Fares	
	Avg Fare (\$)	Pct. Change from Previous Quarter
2Q 2009	302	-3.8
3Q 2009	307	1.7
4Q 2009	320	4.2
1Q 2010	328	2.6
2Q 2010	341	3.8
3Q 2010	340	-0.3
4Q 2010	337	-0.9
1Q 2011	356	5.7

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

Note: Quarter-to-quarter changes may be affected by seasonal factors.

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Table 3: Airports with Highest and Lowest U.S. Domestic Average Itinerary Fares 1st Quarter 2011

Top 100 Airports* Based on 2010 U.S. Originating Domestic Passengers

Fares based on domestic itinerary fares, round-trip or one-way for which no return is purchased. Fares are based on the total ticket value which consists of the price charged by the airlines plus any additional taxes and fees levied by an outside entity at the time of purchase. Fares include only the price paid at the time of the ticket purchase and do not include other fees, such as baggage fees, paid at the airport or onboard the aircraft. Averages do not include frequent-flyer or “zero fares” or a few abnormally high reported fares.

Rank	Origin	1st Quarter 2011 (\$)
Highest Average Fares		
1	Houston Bush, TX	477
2	Huntsville, AL	473
3	Newark-Liberty, NJ	470
4	Cincinnati, OH	466
5	Washington Dulles	465
Average Fare at All Airports		356
Lowest Average Fares		
1	Atlantic City, NJ	172
2	Long Beach, CA	216
3	Bellingham, WA	246
4	Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena, CA	266
5	Orlando, FL	267

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Not including Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

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Table 4: One-Year Change by Airport: Top 5 Percent Increases and Decreases in U.S. Domestic Average Itinerary Fare, 2010 – 2011

Top 100 Airports* Based on 2010 U.S. Originating Domestic Passengers

Fares based on domestic itinerary fares, round-trip or one-way for which no return is purchased. Fares are based on the total ticket value which consists of the price charged by the airlines plus any additional taxes and fees levied by an outside entity at the time of purchase. Fares include only the price paid at the time of the ticket purchase and do not include other fees, such as baggage fees, paid at the airport or onboard the aircraft. Averages do not include frequent-flyer or “zero fares” or a few abnormally high reported fares.

Rank	Origin	1st Quarter 2010 (\$)	1st Quarter 2011 (\$)	Percent Change
Largest Increases				
1	Madison, WI	365	429	17.5
2	Richmond, VA	326	378	15.8
3	Cincinnati, OH	404	466	15.2
4	Santa Ana (Orange County), CA	294	337	14.7
5	Rochester, NY	293	335	14.5
Average Fare at All Airports		328	356	8.4
Largest Decreases				
1	Atlantic City, NJ	188	172	-8.5
2	Greenville/Spartanburg, SC	437	407	-7.0
3	Grand Rapids, MI	406	380	-6.3
4	Huntsville, AL	500	473	-5.3
5	Hartford, CT	373	365	-2.2

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Not including Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

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Table 5: 10-Year Change by Airport: Top 5 Percent Increases and Decreases in U.S. Domestic Average Itinerary Fare, 2001-2011

Top 100 Airports* Based on 2010 U.S. Originating Domestic Passengers

Fares based on domestic itinerary fares, round-trip or one-way for which no return is purchased. Fares are based on the total ticket value which consists of the price charged by the airlines plus any additional taxes and fees levied by an outside entity at the time of purchase. Fares include only the price paid at the time of the ticket purchase and do not include other fees, such as baggage fees, paid at the airport or onboard the aircraft.

Averages do not include frequent-flyer or “zero fares” or a few abnormally high reported fares.

Rank	Origin	1st Quarter 2001 (\$)	1st Quarter 2011 (\$)	Percent Change
Largest Increases				
1	Dallas Love, TX	189	273	44.8
2	Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena, CA	185	266	44.4
3	El Paso, TX	256	356	39.0
4	Reno, NV	223	307	37.7
5	Houston Hobby, TX	219	299	36.4
Average Fare at All Airports		348	356	2.3
Largest Decreases				
1	White Plains, NY	606	323	-46.6
2	Long Beach, CA	321	216	-32.6
3	Denver, CO	452	316	-30.2
4	Bellingham, WA	352	246	-30.1
5	Charlotte, NC	545	392	-28.1

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Not including Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

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Table 6: Percent Changes to 2011 in Domestic Average Itinerary Fares and the Inflation Rate* by Year Since 1995

(1st Quarter to 1st Quarter for fares; March to March for inflation)

Fares based on domestic itinerary fares, round-trip or one-way for which no return is purchased. Fares are based on the total ticket value which consists of the price charged by the airlines plus any additional taxes and fees levied by an outside entity at the time of purchase. Fares include only the price paid at the time of the ticket purchase and do not include other fees, such as baggage fees, paid at the airport or onboard the aircraft.

Averages do not include frequent-flyer or “zero fares” or a few abnormally high reported fares.

Since 1st Quarter ...	Duration in Years	Average 1Q Itinerary Fare (\$)	Percent Change in Average Fare to 1st Quarter 2011	Inflation Rate to Mar 2011
2011		356		
2010	1	328	8.4	2.7
2009	2	314	13.4	5.1
2008	3	333	6.7	4.7
2007	4	318	11.9	8.8
2006	5	323	10.0	11.8
2005	6	301	18.0	15.6
2004	7	320	11.1	19.2
2003	8	319	11.4	21.3
2002	9	320	11.2	25.0
2001	10	348	2.3	26.8
2000	11	340	4.6	30.5
1999	12	332	7.2	35.4
1998	13	305	16.7	37.8
1997	14	283	25.5	39.7
1996	15	284	25.3	43.5
1995	16	297	19.8	47.6

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Rate calculated using Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

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For **air fares** for the following airports, go to
<http://www.bts.gov/xml/atpi/src/index.xml>.

Multiple airport areas for which a single average fare calculation is available are:
Boston, Chicago, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco
and Washington, DC.

Airports covered by average fare calculations are:

Alabama	Birmingham, Huntsville
Arizona	Phoenix, Tucson
Arkansas	Little Rock
California	Burbank, Fresno, Long Beach, Los Angeles Intl, Oakland, Ontario/San Bernardino, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Ana (Orange County)
Colorado	Colorado Springs, Denver
Connecticut	Hartford
District of Columbia	Dulles, Reagan National
Florida	Ft. Lauderdale, Ft. Myers, Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, Pensacola, Tampa, West Palm Beach
Georgia	Atlanta
Idaho	Boise
Illinois	Chicago Midway, Chicago O'Hare
Indiana	Indianapolis
Iowa	Des Moines
Kansas	Wichita
Kentucky	Louisville
Louisiana	New Orleans
Maine	Portland
Maryland	Baltimore
Massachusetts	Boston
Michigan	Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids
Minnesota	Minneapolis/St. Paul
Mississippi	Jackson/Vicksburg
Missouri	Kansas City, St. Louis
Nebraska	Omaha
Nevada	Las Vegas, Reno
New Hampshire	Manchester
New Jersey	Atlantic City, Newark
New Mexico	Albuquerque
New York	Albany, Buffalo, Islip, New York JFK, New York LaGuardia, Rochester, Syracuse, White Plains

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ADD TEN

North Carolina	Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh/Durham
Ohio	Akron/Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton
Oklahoma	Oklahoma City, Tulsa
Oregon	Portland
Pennsylvania	Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh
Rhode Island	Providence
South Carolina	Charleston, Greenville-Spartanburg
Tennessee	Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville
Texas	Austin, Dallas Love, Dallas/Ft. Worth, El Paso, Houston Bush, Houston Hobby, San Antonio
Utah	Salt Lake City
Vermont	Burlington
Virginia	Newport News/Williamsburg, Norfolk, Richmond
Washington	Bellingham, Seattle, Spokane
Wisconsin	Madison, Milwaukee

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