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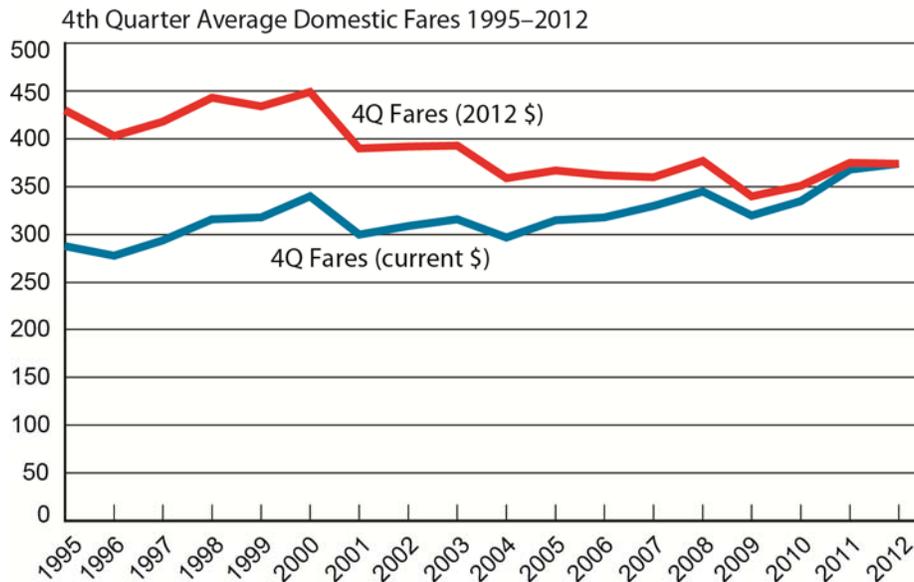
BTS Data

BTS 21-13
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4th-Quarter 2012 Domestic Air Fare Almost Unchanged from 4th Quarter 2011 (Adjusted for Inflation)

Top 100 Airports: Highest Fares at Huntsville, Lowest Fares at Atlantic City

Domestic Air Fares



The average domestic air fare declined to \$374 in the fourth quarter of 2012, down 0.2 percent from the average fare of \$375 in the fourth quarter of 2011, measured in 2012 dollars (Table 1), the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today. Huntsville, Ala., had the highest average fare, \$544, while Atlantic City, N.J., had the lowest, \$157 (Table 6).

The fourth-quarter 2012 fare in 2012 dollars was down 16.7 percent from the average fare of \$449 in 2000, the highest of any fourth quarter adjusted for inflation (Table 2).

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AIR FARE PRESS RELEASE

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BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reports average fares based on domestic itinerary fares. Itinerary fares consist of round-trip fares unless the customer does not purchase a return trip. In that case, the one-way fare is included. 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 abnormally high reported fares.

Passenger airlines collected 70.7 percent of their total revenue from passenger fares during the first nine months of 2012, down from 1990 when 87.6 percent of airline revenue was received from fares (Table 1A).

From 2000 to 2012, inflation-adjusted fares declined 16.7 percent while there was an overall increase in consumer prices of 32.0 percent. In the 17 years from 1995, inflation-adjusted fares declined 13.1 percent compared to a 49.6 percent increase in consumer prices (Table 2). See [BTS Air Fare web page](#) for historic data.

Quarter-to-Quarter Change

Inflation-adjusted fourth-quarter fares rose 2.6 percent from the third quarter of 2012 (Table 3). Quarter-to-quarter changes may be affected by seasonal factors.

Air Fares in Unadjusted Dollars

Not adjusted for inflation, the \$374 fourth-quarter 2012 average fare was the highest average fare for any fourth quarter since BTS began collecting air fare records in 1995. The previous fourth-quarter high was \$368 in 2011 (Table 4).

Unadjusted fourth-quarter 2012 fares were up 1.9 percent from the third quarter of 2012 (Table 5). Quarter-to-quarter changes may be affected by seasonal factors such as the number of passengers. See [Tables 13-16](#) for additional unadjusted fare data by airport.

Fares by Airport

See Tables 6-8 for data about the [top 100 airports](#) based on 2011 originating passengers. All figures in 2012 dollars.

Table 6: Five highest and five lowest average fares in the fourth quarter: Huntsville had the highest average fare (\$544) while Atlantic City had the lowest (\$157). For the Top 100 Airports, see [Table 10](#) on the BTS website.

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Table 7: Five largest increases and five largest decreases in 2012 dollars from the fourth quarter of 2011 to the fourth quarter of 2012: Newport News/Williamsburg, Va., had the largest increase (29.2 percent) and Colorado Springs, CO, had the largest decrease (22.1 percent). For the Top 100 Airports, see [Table 11](#) on the BTS website.

Table 8: Five largest increases and five largest decreases in 2012 dollars from the fourth quarter of 2000 to the fourth quarter of 2012: Newport News/Williamsburg had the largest increase (23.1 percent) and Atlantic City had the largest decrease (47.5 percent). For the Top 100 Airports, see [Table 12](#) on the BTS website.

For additional data, see [Top 100 Airports, Rankings](#) or [All Airports](#). 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. Fares for Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico airports are not included in rankings but are available on the web page. First-quarter 2013 average fare data will be released on July 24.

Table 1. 4th Quarter Average Fare 1995-2012, Adjusted for Inflation

	Average Fare in 2012 dollars (\$)	Year-to-Year Percent Change in Average Fare (4Q to 4Q) (%)	Cumulative Percent Change in Average Fare (4Q 1995 to 4Q of each year) (%)
1995	430	-	-
1996	403	-6.4	-6.4
1997	418	3.7	-2.9
1998	443	6.0	2.9
1999	434	-2.1	0.8
2000	449	3.5	4.3
2001	390	-13.2	-9.5
2002	392	0.6	-8.9
2003	393	0.4	-8.6
2004	359	-8.8	-16.7
2005	367	2.4	-14.7
2006	362	-1.4	-15.9
2007	360	-0.4	-16.3
2008	377	4.6	-12.4
2009	340	-9.9	-21.0
2010	351	3.1	-18.5
2011	375	6.9	-12.9
2012	374	-0.2	-13.1

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics
 Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

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Table 1A. Passenger Airline Revenue from Fares 1990-2012

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
2011	71.0
2012 (1Q)	70.0
2012 (2Q)	70.8
2012 (3Q)	71.2
2012 (thru 3Q)	70.7

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. Percent Changes to 2012 in Average Domestic Average Fares and the Inflation Rate* by Year Since 1995

(4th Quarter to 4th Quarter for fares; Dec to Dec for inflation)

Since 4th Quarter ...	Duration in Years	Average Fare in 2012 dollars (\$)	Percent Change in Average Fare to 4th Quarter 2012 (%)	Inflation Rate Change to Dec 2012
2012		374		
2011	1	375	-0.2	1.7
2010	2	351	6.6	4.8
2009	3	340	9.9	6.3
2008	4	377	-0.9	9.2
2007	5	360	3.7	9.3
2006	6	362	3.3	13.8
2005	7	367	1.8	16.7
2004	8	359	4.2	20.7
2003	9	393	-5.0	24.6
2002	10	392	-4.6	26.9
2001	11	390	-4.0	29.9
2000	12	449	-16.7	32.0
1999	13	434	-13.8	36.4
1998	14	443	-15.6	40.1
1997	15	418	-10.5	42.3
1996	16	403	-7.2	44.8
1995	17	430	-13.1	49.6

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Rate calculated using Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index

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AIR FARE PRESS RELEASE
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Table 3. Adjusted Average Domestic Airline Fares by Quarter
Average Fare and Percent Change by Quarter

Quarter/Year	Average Domestic Fare (2012\$)	
	Average Fare in 2012 dollars (\$)	Quarter-to-Quarter Percent Change in Average Fare (%)
3Q 2010	357	
4Q 2010	351	-1.8
1Q 2011	365	4.2
2Q 2011	376	2.9
3Q 2011	365	-2.9
4Q 2011	375	2.7
1Q 2012	373	-0.5
2Q 2012	385	3.2
3Q 2012	364	-5.4
4Q 2012	374	2.6

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 4. Unadjusted 4th Quarter Average Fares, 1995-2012

	Average Fare in current dollars (\$)	Year-to-Year Percent Change in Average Fare (4Q to 4Q) (%)	Cumulative Percent Change in Average Fare (4Q 1995 to 4Q of each year) (%)
1995	288		
1996	278	-3.3	-3.3
1997	294	5.5	2.0
1998	316	7.7	9.9
1999	318	0.6	10.5
2000	340	7.0	18.2
2001	300	-11.8	4.2
2002	309	3.0	7.3
2003	316	2.2	9.7
2004	297	-5.9	3.3
2005	315	5.9	9.4
2006	318	1.1	10.6
2007	330	3.6	14.6
2008	345	4.7	20.0
2009	320	-7.4	11.1
2010	335	4.7	16.3
2011	368	10.0	28.0
2012	374	1.5	29.7

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics
Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

Table 5. Unadjusted Average Domestic Airline Fares by Quarter
Average Fare and Percent Change by Quarter

Quarter/Year	Average Domestic Fare (current\$)	
	Average Fare in current dollars (\$)	Quarter-to-Quarter Percent Change in Average Fare (%)
3Q 2010	340	-0.3
4Q 2010	335	-1.5
1Q 2011	356	6.3
2Q 2011	370	3.9
3Q 2011	361	-2.4
4Q 2011	368	2.1
1Q 2012	373	1.2
2Q 2012	385	3.2
3Q 2012	367	-4.6
4Q 2012	374	1.9

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics
Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers
Note: Quarter-to-quarter changes may be affected by seasonal factors.

AIR FARE PRESS RELEASE
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**Table 6. Airports with Highest and Lowest U.S. Domestic Average Itinerary Fares
4th Quarter 2012**

Top 100 Airports* Based on 2011 U.S. Originating Domestic Passengers

Rank	Origin	4th Quarter 2012 (\$)
Highest Average Fares		
1	Huntsville, AL	544
2	Cincinnati, OH	518
3	Houston Bush, TX	501
4	Washington Dulles	493
5	Newark-Liberty, NJ	484
Average Fare at All Airports		374
Lowest Average Fares		
1	Atlantic City, NJ	157
2	Long Beach, CA	234
3	Fort Lauderdale, FL	267
4	Las Vegas, NV	268
5	Orlando, FL	276

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Not including Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

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AIR FARE PRESS RELEASE
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Table 7. One-Year Change by Airport: Top 5 Percentage Increases and Decreases in U.S. Domestic Average Itinerary Fare, 4th Quarter 2011 to 4th Quarter 2012

Top 100 Airports* Based on 2011 U.S. Originating Domestic Passengers, Fares Adjusted for Inflation

Rank	Origin	4th Quarter 2011 (2012\$)	4th Quarter 2012 (2012\$)	Percent Change (%)
Largest Increases				
1	Newport News/Williamsburg, VA	334	431	29.2
2	Huntsville, AL	482	544	12.9
3	Houston Hobby, TX	309	336	8.5
4	Milwaukee, WI	310	332	7.3
5	Knoxville, TN	433	463	7.1
Average Fare at All Airports		375	374	-0.2
Largest Decreases				
1	Colorado Springs, CO	477	372	-22.1
2	Atlantic City, NJ	192	157	-17.9
3	Des Moines, IA	429	387	-9.8
4	Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena, CA	304	282	-7.4
5	Atlanta, GA	385	361	-6.2

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Not including Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

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Table 8. 12-Year Change by Airport: Top 5 Percentage Increases and Decreases in U.S. Domestic Average Itinerary Fare, 2000-2012

Top 100 Airports* Based on 2011 U.S. Originating Domestic Passengers, Fares Adjusted for Inflation

Rank	Origin	4th Quarter 2000 (2012\$)	4th Quarter 2012 (2012\$)	Percent Change (%)
Largest Increases				
1	Newport News/Williamsburg, VA	350	431	23.1
2	Houston Hobby, TX	289	336	16.1
3	Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena, CA	248	282	13.6
4	Reno, NV	292	327	12.3
5	El Paso, TX	341	378	11.0
Average Fare at All Airports		449	374	-16.7
Largest Decreases				
1	Atlantic City, NJ	300	157	-47.5
2	White Plains, NY	728	390	-46.4
3	Denver, CO	552	320	-42.0
4	Long Beach, CA	396	234	-41.0
5	Charlotte, NC	654	397	-39.2

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Not including Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico

Note: Percent change based on unrounded numbers

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AIR FARE PRESS RELEASE
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For **air fares** for the following airports, go to
<http://apps.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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**AIR FARE PRESS RELEASE
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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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