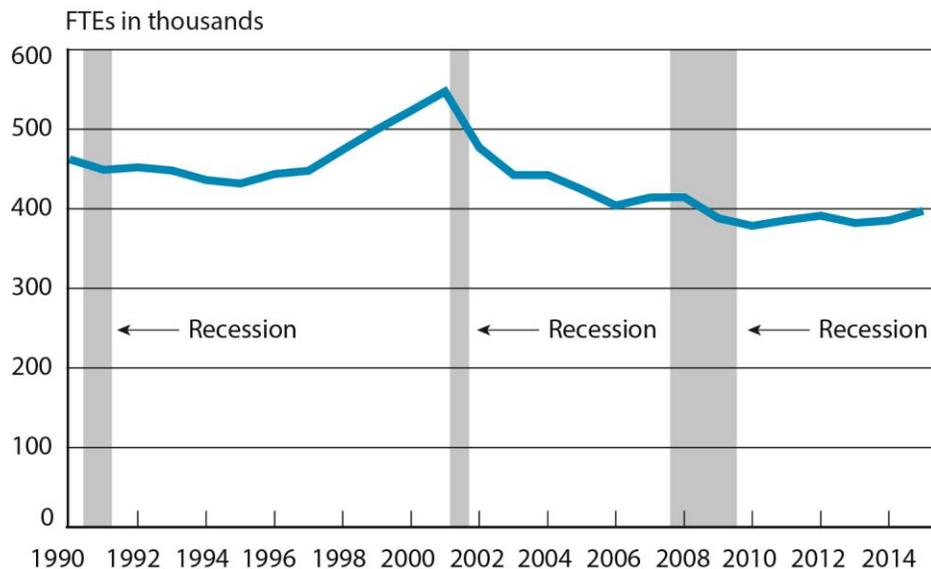


June 2015 Passenger Airline Employment Data

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines employed 3.0 percent more workers in June 2015 than in June 2014, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today. June was the 19th consecutive month that full-time equivalent (FTE) employment for U.S. scheduled passenger airlines exceeded the same month of the previous year and was the highest monthly total since [September 2008](#) (Tables 1, 2, 3).

Scheduled Passenger Airline Full-Time Equivalent Employees,
Month of June, 1990-2015



Month-to-month, the number of FTEs rose 0.3 percent from May to June, the sixth consecutive monthly increase (Table 1A). Scheduled passenger airline categories include network, low-cost, regional and other airlines. [Historical employment data](#) can be found on the BTS web site.

The five network airlines that collectively employ two-thirds of the scheduled passenger airline FTEs reported 3.1 percent more FTEs in June 2015 than in June 2014 (Table 7). Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines and US Airways increased FTEs from June 2014 while United Airlines reduced FTEs (Table 9). Month-to-month, the number of network airline FTEs rose 0.4 percent from May to June, rising for the ninth consecutive month (Table 1A). Network airlines 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.

The six low-cost carriers reported 4.9 percent more FTEs in June 2015 than in June 2014 (Table 10). Spirit Airlines, Allegiant Airlines, JetBlue Airways, Southwest Airlines and Virgin America reported increases while Frontier Airlines reduced FTEs (Table 12). Month-to-month, the number of low-cost airline FTEs rose 0.6 percent from May to June, rising for the third consecutive month (Table 1A). Low-cost airlines operate under a low-cost business model, with infrastructure and aircraft operating costs below the overall industry average.

The 12 regional carriers reported 0.1 percent more FTEs in June 2015 than in June 2014 (Table 13). Eight regional airlines – PSA Airlines, Mesa Airlines, Compass Airlines, Horizon Air, Republic Airlines, GoJet Airlines, SkyWest and Envoy – reported increased employment levels. The others reported decreases (Table 15). Month-to-month, the number of regional airline FTEs declined 0.2 percent from May to June (Table 1A). Regional carriers typically provide service from small cities, using primarily regional jets to support the network carriers' hub and spoke systems.

Carrier Groups: The five network airlines employed 66.9 percent of the 396,973 FTEs employed by all scheduled passenger airlines in June, the six low-cost carriers employed 18.8 percent and the 12 regional carriers employed 12.7 percent (Table 4). The three airlines with the most FTEs in June – United, Delta and American – employed 55.8 percent of the month's total passenger airline FTEs (Tables 3, 6).

Top Employers by Group: Delta employed the most FTEs (79,130) in June among the network airlines, Southwest employed the most FTEs (47,645) among low-cost airlines, and Envoy employed the most FTEs (10,773) among regional airlines. Four of the top five employers in the industry are network airlines (Table 6).

Airline Mergers: Airlines that announce mergers typically begin joint reporting following U.S. Department of Transportation approval and issuance of a single economic certificate. American and US Airways will begin reporting jointly with the report of July employment numbers. The airlines announced a merger in January 2013.

Network Airlines

The network airlines employed 3.1 percent more FTEs in June 2015 than in June 2014 and 1.3 percent more FTEs in June 2015 than in June 2011 (Tables 8, 9).

Low-Cost Airlines

The six low-cost airlines employed 4.9 percent more FTEs in June 2015 than in June 2014 and 10.9 percent more FTEs in June 2015 than in June 2011 (Tables 11, 12).

Regional Airlines

Regional airlines employed 0.1 percent more FTEs in June 2015 than in June 2014. The 12 regional carriers reporting in June 2015 employed 4.9 percent fewer FTEs in June 2015 than the 17 carriers reporting in June 2011 (Tables 14, 15).

Reporting Notes

Airlines that operate at least one aircraft that has more than 60 seats or the capacity to carry a payload of passengers, cargo and fuel weighing more than 18,000 pounds must report monthly employment statistics.

The “Other Carrier” category generally reflects those airlines that operate within specific niche markets such as the Hawaiian Islands served by Hawaiian Airlines and Island Air Hawaii.

Data are compiled from monthly reports filed with BTS by commercial air carriers as of Aug. 12. Additional [airline employment data](#) and previous [press releases](#) can be found on the BTS website. BTS has [scheduled release](#) of July passenger airline employment data for Sept. 14.

Table 1: Yearly Change in Scheduled Passenger Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Airline Group

Most recent 13 months - percent change compared to same month the previous year

	Network Airlines	Low- Cost Airlines	Regional Airlines	All Passenger Airlines**
Jun 2013-Jun 2014	0.3	2.2	1.9	0.9
Jul 2013-Jul 2014	0.4	2.5	3.5	1.3
Aug 2013-Aug 2014	0.1	3.0	2.5	1.0
Sep 2013-Sep 2014	0.4	2.9	1.9	1.1
Oct 2013-Oct 2014	0.3	3.8	-0.2	0.9
Nov 2013-Nov 2014	0.4	5.2	1.5	1.5
Dec 2013-Dec 2014	0.8	4.4	-0.2	1.4
Jan 2014-Jan 2015	0.8	4.6	-1.9	1.2
Feb 2014-Feb 2015	1.4	4.6	-0.3	1.8
Mar 2014-Mar 2015	1.7	4.0	-0.5	1.9
Apr 2014-Apr 2015	2.4	4.2	-0.4	2.4
May 2014-May 2015	2.7	4.3	-0.3	2.6
Jun 2014-Jun 2015	3.1	4.9	0.1	3.0

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers. Other Carriers generally operate within specific niche markets. They are: Hawaiian Airlines, Sun Country Airlines and Island Air Hawaii.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: See Table 2 for all passenger airlines, Table 7 for Network, Table 10 for Low-Cost and Table 13 for Regional.

Table 1A: Monthly Change in Scheduled Passenger Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Airline Group

Percent change in FTEs from the previous month

	Network Airlines	Low-Cost Airlines	Regional Airlines	All Passenger Airlines**
Jun 2014-Jul 2014	0.0	0.3	1.5	0.3
Jul 2014-Aug 2014	-0.6	0.2	-0.9	-0.5
Aug 2014-Sep 2014	0.0	0.1	-0.3	0.0
Sep 2014-Oct 2014	0.1	1.0	-1.4	0.1
Oct 2014- Nov 2014	0.2	1.3	1.6	0.6
Nov 2014-Dec 2014	0.2	-0.8	-1.0	-0.2
Dec 2014-Jan 2015	0.1	0.7	-1.2	0.1
Jan 2015-Feb 2015	0.5	0.6	1.7	0.6
Feb 2015-Mar 2015	0.8	-0.2	0.1	0.5
Mar 2015-Apr 2015	0.8	1.7	-0.1	0.7
Apr 2015-May 2015	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.6
May 2015-Jun 2015	0.4	0.6	-0.2	0.3

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers. Other Carriers generally operate within specific niche markets. They are: Hawaiian Airlines, Sun Country Airlines and Island Air Hawaii.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Note: See Table 2 for all passenger airlines, Table 7 for Network, Table 10 for Low-Cost and Table 13 for Regional.

Table 2: Change from Previous Year in Scheduled Passenger Airline* Full-time Equivalent Employees**

Percent change compared to same month of the previous year

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	2.1	-2.3	0.5	1.2
February	2.1	-2.5	0.4	1.8
March	2.1	-2.7	0.8	1.9
April	1.8	-2.4	1.0	2.6
May	1.6	-2.5	1.1	2.6
June	1.1	-2.4	0.9	3.0
July	0.8	-2.6	1.3	
August	0.1	-2.2	1.0	
September	-0.6	-1.6	1.1	
October	-1.3	-0.8	0.9	
November	-2.0	-0.1	1.5	
December	-2.6	0.3	1.4	

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: Scheduled Passenger Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Month 2011-2015
FTE numbers in thousands (000's)

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent Change	
						2011-2015	2014-2015
January	380.9	388.8	380.0	381.8	386.6	1.5	1.2
February	381.8	389.9	380.4	382.0	389.0	1.9	1.8
March	387.1	390.8	380.5	383.6	390.8	1.0	1.9
April	383.7	390.2	381.0	384.3	393.4	2.5	2.4
May	385.0	391.0	381.4	385.6	395.6	2.8	2.6
June	386.8	390.9	381.7	385.2	397.0	2.6	3.0
July	386.8	391.3	381.3	386.2			
August	388.5	389.0	380.6	384.5			
September	388.6	386.4	380.2	384.4			
October	389.4	384.3	381.2	384.7			
November	389.4	381.6	381.2	386.9			
December	389.7	379.6	380.8	386.2			
12-Month Average	386.5	387.8	380.9	384.6			
Jan-Jun Average	384.2	390.3	380.8	383.8	392.1	2.0	2.2

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 4: Airline Group Full-time Equivalent Employees*, June 2011-2015
FTE numbers in thousands (000's)

	Network	Low-Cost	Regional	All Passenger Airlines**
2011	262.1	67.3	53.0	386.8
2012	264.3	70.0	51.7	390.9
2013	256.8	69.6	49.4	381.4
2014	257.5	71.1	50.3	385.2
2015	265.5	74.6	50.4	397.0
Pct. Change 2011-2015	1.3%	10.9%	-4.9%	2.6%
Percent of Total Passenger Airline Employees in 2015	66.9%	18.8%	12.7%	100%

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers.

Table 5: Year-to-Year Change in Airline Group Full-time Equivalent Employees*, June 2011-2015

Percent change in FTEs from the same month of the previous year

	Network	Low-Cost	Regional	All Passenger Airlines**
2011	2.2	5.0	1.9	2.7
2012	0.8	4.0	-2.5	1.1
2013	-2.8	-0.6	-4.4	-2.4
2014	0.3	2.2	2.3	1.0
2015	3.1	4.9	0.1	3.0

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Includes network, low-cost, regional and other carriers.

Table 6: Top 10 Airlines, June 2015

Ranked by Number of Full-Time Equivalent Employees*

FTE numbers in thousands (000's)

Rank	Airline	Total FTE Employees	Carrier Group**	Top 10 Airlines June 2014
1	Delta	79.1	Network	United
2	United	78.8	Network	Delta
3	American	63.6	Network	American
4	Southwest	47.6	Low-Cost	Southwest
5	US Airways	33.1	Network	US Airways
6	JetBlue	14.7	Low-Cost	JetBlue
7	Alaska	10.9	Regional	American Eagle
8	Envoy**	10.8	Network	SkyWest
9	SkyWest	9.9	Regional	Alaska
10	ExpressJet	7.9	Regional	ExpressJet

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** See Table 9 for Network, Table 12 for Low-Cost and Table 15 for Regional.

*** Envoy operated as American Eagle prior to April 2014

Table 7: Network Airline Year-to-Year Change in Full-time Equivalent Employees* from the Previous Year

Percent change compared to same month of the previous year

	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	1.5	-3.1	0.4	0.8
February	1.2	-3.0	0.1	1.4
March	1.2	-3.3	0.6	1.7
April	1.3	-3.0	0.4	2.4
May	1.3	-3.0	0.5	2.7
June	0.8	-2.8	0.3	3.1
July	0.8	-2.8	0.4	
August	-0.2	-2.5	0.1	
September	-0.8	-2.1	0.4	
October	-1.4	-1.4	0.3	
November	-2.4	-0.4	0.4	
December	-3.3	0.4	0.8	

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

Table 8: Network Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Month 2011-2015

FTE numbers in thousands (000's)

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent Change	
						2011-2015	2014-2015
January	258.9	262.6	254.4	255.5	257.6	-0.5	0.8
February	259.8	262.8	255.0	255.2	258.8	-0.4	1.4
March	260.8	263.5	254.9	256.3	260.8	0.0	1.7
April	260.6	263.7	255.7	256.7	262.9	0.9	2.4
May	261.2	264.2	256.3	257.6	264.4	1.3	2.7
June	262.1	264.3	256.8	257.5	265.5	1.3	3.1
July	261.8	263.8	256.5	257.5			
August	263.1	262.4	255.8	256.1			
September	262.6	260.6	255.2	256.1			
October	262.9	259.2	255.7	256.4			
November	263.1	256.8	255.9	256.8			
December	262.6	254.1	255.2	257.3			
12-Month Average	261.6	261.5	255.6	256.6			
Jan-Jun Average	260.6	263.5	255.5	256.5	261.7	0.4	2.0

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* 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 9: Network Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees*, June 2011-2015

(FTEs for June of each year. Ranked by June 2015 FTEs)

FTE numbers in thousands (000's)

Rank	Airline	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent Change	
							2011-2015	2014-2015
1	Delta	76.4	77.5	74.5	75.9	79.1	3.5	4.2
2	UA/CO Combined	80.2	82.6	82.5	80.0	78.8	-1.7	-1.5
	United**	43.2	82.6	82.5	80.0	78.8	N/A	-1.5
	Continental**	37.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	American	66.5	64.6	59.2	59.8	63.6	-4.3	6.3
4	US Airways	30.0	30.4	31.0	31.8	33.1	10.2	3.9
5	Alaska	9.0	9.2	9.6	9.9	10.9	20.4	9.9
	Total	262.1	264.3	256.8	257.5	265.5	1.3	3.1

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee

** United Airlines and Continental Airlines merged and began reporting combined numbers in January 2012.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Table 10: Low-Cost Airline Year-to-Year Change in Full-time Equivalent Employees* from the Previous Year

Percent change compared to same month of the previous year

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	5.7	1.1	0.3	4.6
February	6.4	0.2	0.7	4.6
March	7.1	-0.1	0.8	4.0
April	5.7	-0.3	1.5	4.2
May	5.3	-0.3	1.8	4.3
June	4.0	-0.6	5.0	4.9
July	3.5	-0.4	2.5	
August	2.5	0.0	3.0	
September	2.5	-0.2	2.9	
October	1.9	-0.1	3.8	
November	1.4	-0.1	5.2	
December	1.3	-0.6	4.4	

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* 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 11: Low-Cost Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Month 2011-2015
FTE numbers in thousands (000's)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent Change	
						2011-2015	2014-2015
January	65.0	68.7	69.5	69.7	72.9	12.2	4.6
February	65.3	69.5	69.6	70.1	73.4	12.3	4.6
March	65.5	69.9	69.9	70.4	73.2	11.8	4.0
April	66.1	69.9	69.7	70.8	73.7	11.5	4.2
May	66.6	70.1	69.8	71.1	74.2	11.4	4.3
June	67.3	70.0	69.6	71.1	74.6	10.9	4.9
July	67.4	69.8	69.5	71.3			
August	67.7	69.4	69.4	71.4			
September	67.9	69.6	69.4	71.4			
October	68.3	69.6	69.5	72.1			
November	68.5	69.4	69.4	73.0			
December	68.9	69.8	69.4	72.4			
12-Month Average	67.0	69.6	69.5	71.2			
Jan-Jun Average	66.0	69.7	69.7	70.5	73.6	11.7	4.4

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Note: Percent changes and averages based on numbers prior to rounding.

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

Table 12: Low-Cost Carrier Full-time Equivalent Employees,* June 2011-2015**
(FTEs for June of each year. Ranked by June 2015 FTEs)

Rank		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent Change	
							2011-2015	2014-2015
1	WN/FL Combined	44,399	46,128	45,216	45,508	47,645	7.3	4.7
	Southwest**	36,232	46,128	45,216	45,508	47,645	31.5	4.7
	AirTran	8,167	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	JetBlue	12,016	12,691	13,029	13,423	14,718	22.5	9.6
3	Spirit	2,334	2,770	3,400	3,714	4,304	84.4	15.9
4	Frontier	4,966	4,192	3,610	3,685	2,755	-44.5	-25.2
5	Virgin America	1,982	2,445	2,405	2,510	2,617	32.0	4.3
6	Allegiant	1,566	1,744	1,914	2,234	2,553	63.0	14.3
	Total	67,263	69,970	69,574	71,074	74,592	10.9	4.9

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Southwest Airlines and AirTran Airways merged and began reporting combined employment numbers in April 2012.

Note: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Table 13: Regional Airline Year-to-Year Change in Full-time Equivalent Employees* from the Previous Year

Percent change compared to same month of the previous year

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	0.1	-4.1	-0.4	-1.9
February	0.8	-5.0	0.5	-0.3
March	0.2	-4.6	0.9	-0.5
April	-1.5	-3.8	2.3	-0.4
May	-2.2	-4.5	2.4	-0.3
June	-2.5	-4.4	1.9	0.1
July	-3.3	-6.3	3.5	
August	-2.3	-5.1	2.5	
September	-4.3	-3.0	1.9	
October	-6.0	-0.8	-0.2	
November	-5.4	-0.5	1.5	
December	-5.4	-0.5	-0.2	

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* 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 14: Regional Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees* by Month 2011-2015

FTE numbers in thousands (000's)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent Change	
						2011-2015	2014-2015
January	52.8	52.8	50.6	50.4	49.5	-6.2	-1.9
February	52.4	52.8	50.2	50.5	50.3	-4.0	-0.3
March	52.5	52.6	50.2	50.6	50.4	-4.0	-0.5
April	52.6	51.8	49.9	50.5	50.3	-4.3	-0.4
May	52.9	51.7	49.5	50.6	50.5	-4.6	-0.3
June	53.0	51.7	49.4	50.3	50.4	-4.9	0.1
July	53.2	52.7	49.4	51.1			
August	53.3	52.1	49.4	50.7			
September	53.4	51.1	49.5	50.5			
October	53.5	50.3	49.9	49.8			
November	53.0	50.1	49.9	50.6			
December	53.3	50.4	50.2	50.1			
12-Month Average	53.0	51.7	49.8	50.5			
Jan-Jun Average	52.7	52.2	50.0	50.5	50.2	-4.7	-0.5

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* 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 15: Regional Airline Full-time Equivalent Employees*, June 2011-2015
(FTEs for June of each year. Ranked by June 2015 FTEs)

Rank		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent Change	
							2011-2015	2014-2015
1	Envoy**	9,786	9,839	11,166	10,708	10,773	10.1	0.6
2	SkyWest	9,435	9,405	9,422	9,603	9,924	5.2	3.3
3	XE/EV Combined	9,037	9,426	8,998	9,331	7,925	-12.3	-15.1
	ExpressJet***	3,777	9,426	8,998	9,331	7,925	N/A	-15.1
	Atlantic Southeast***	5,260	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	9E/XJ Combined	5,734	4,806	4,145	3,816	3,232	-43.6	-15.3
	Endeavor****	3,555	4,806	4,145	3,816	3,232	N/A	-15.3
	Mesaba****	2,179	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	Republic	2,160	1,917	2,344	2,912	3,168	46.7	8.8
6	Horizon	2,820	2,814	2,640	2,815	3,123	10.7	10.9
9	Air Wisconsin	2,534	2,624	2,482	2,523	1,895	-25.2	-24.9
8	Mesa	1,935	1,726	1,710	1,975	2,567	32.7	30.0
7	S5/RP Combined	1,485	1,912	3,277	2,922	2,827	90.4	-3.3
	Shuttle America#	1,485	1,912	2,067	2,039	2,827	90.4	N/A
	Chautauqua#	N/A	N/A	1,210	883	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	PSA	1,010	1,087	1,072	1,424	2,210	118.8	55.2
11	Compass	976	1,093	1,077	1,209	1,556	59.4	28.7
12	GoJet	559	892	1,082	1,098	1,173	109.8	6.8
14	Executive##	1,827	1,411	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
15	Colgan###	1,542	1,158	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
16	Comair####	2,147	1,556	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Total	52,987	51,666	49,415	50,336	50,373	-4.9	0.1

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

* Full-time Equivalent Employee (FTE) calculations count two part-time employees as one full-time employee.

** Envoy Airlines operated as American Eagle prior to April 2014.

*** ExpressJet Airlines and Atlantic Southeast Airlines began reporting combined numbers in January 2012.

**** Endeavor Airlines operated as Pinnacle prior to September 2013. Pinnacle Airlines and Mesaba Airlines began reporting combined numbers in January 2012.

Effective July 2012 Chautauqua Airlines began reporting employment data. Chautauqua did not qualify for monthly reporting prior to July 2012 because it did not operate aircraft with more than 60 seats. Effective the end of December 2014, Shuttle America and Chautauqua combined operations and Chautauqua ceased operating.

Effective the end of March 2013, Executive Airlines ceased operations.

Effective the end of September 2012, Colgan Airlines ceased operations.

Effective the end of October 2012, Comair ceased operations.

N/A: Carriers 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.