

# US Regional Airline Fact Sheet

## Definition of a Regional Airline

- Regional airlines, operating 9- to 78-seat turboprops and 30- to 108-seat regional jets, provide short- and medium-haul scheduled airline service to 673 US airports. At 498 airports (74%), regional airlines provide the **only** scheduled service.

Airports	Regional Only (+95%)	Any Service
Lower 48	282	437
AK+HI	216	236
Total	498	673

## Regional Airlines

- 61 US regional airlines in 2010\*
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- The Regional Airline Association currently has 30 member airlines, and its U.S. members airline transport 99% of the nation's regional airline passengers.

## Passengers

- 163.5 million in 2010 (159.45 million passengers transported in 2009)
- Passenger boardings have increased more than 100% since 1995
- Regional airlines transport nearly 1 out of every 4 air travelers in the United States
- Average load factor on regional airlines in 2010 increased to 76.45% compared with 72.91 million in 2009

## Revenue Passenger Miles (RPMs)

*(Revenue passenger-miles are a measure of the volume of air passenger transportation. A revenue passenger-mile is equal to one paying passenger carried one mile.)*

- RPMs were 72.93 billion in 2009 (up from 73.64 billion in 2008)
- RPMs were 37.48 billion in 1st half 2010 (up from 35.01 billion in 1st half 2009)

## Available Seat Miles (ASMs)

*(Available seat-miles for an individual flight are the number of seats multiplied by the distance traveled; this measure can represent overall capacity.)*

- ASMs were 99.18 billion in 2010 (up from 97.61 billion in 2009)

## Regional Fleet

- Fleet as of July 2010: 2,485 (Aircraft over 9 seats operated by scheduled passenger carriers)
- In 2009, the regional fleet flew 5,146 hours compared to 5,714 hours in 2005
- The average aircraft in 2010 had 56 seats, up from 50 seats in 2005

## Flights (based on OAG Schedules)

- Scheduled regional aircraft departures in 2010 totaled 4.75 million, down from 4.81 million scheduled departures in 2009. The average passenger trip length increased to 464 miles compared with 457 miles in 2009.

## Code-sharing

- 99% of regional airline passengers traveled on code-sharing regional airlines in 2010.

## Regulatory Requirements

- All airlines providing scheduled service in aircraft with 10 or more passenger seats operate under identical FAA regulatory requirements.

## Industry and FAA growth predictions for 2030

- Average seating capacity of the regional fleet was 55 seats in 2009, and forecast to grow to 56 in 2011 and 65 seats in 2030.
- FAA forecast shows the average passenger trip length to increase to 455 miles for domestic flights in 2011 with continued increases to 495 miles in 2016 and 587 miles in 2030.
- While US regional passenger traffic had average annual growth of 7.6% during 2000-2009, annual growth slowed during 2009-2010 to 4.6% and is forecast to increase on average 3.0% during the period 2009-2030.

For the complete 2010-2030 FAA Aerospace Forecast visit:

[www.faa.gov/data\\_research/aviation/aerospace\\_forecasts/2010-2030/](http://www.faa.gov/data_research/aviation/aerospace_forecasts/2010-2030/)

## Industry Statistics 1980 – 2010

	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2009	2010
Carriers Operating	247	190	153	123	91	75	62	61
Passengers Enplaned (millions)	14.69	26.99	41.49	58.31	82.49	152.55	159.45	163.5
Revenue Passenger Miles (billions)	1.89	4.70	8.03	12.64	24.38	67.41	72.91	75.82
Available Seat Miles (billions)	4.01	10.07	15.04	25.48	42.81	95.58	97.61	99.18
Average Load Factor	47.19%	46.63%	53.39%	49.60%	56.96%	70.53%	74.70%	76.45%
Departures (millions)	2.26	3.23	4.12	4.89	4.55	5.43	4.81	4.75
Average Passenger Trip Length (miles)	129	174	194	217	296	442	457	464
Average Seating Capacity	16	26	24	30	37	50	55	56

Source: OAG Form41 iNet; OAG Schedules iNet via UBM Aviation, April 2011