COVID-19 Passenger business setback in January, though cargo positive

**Brian Pearce** 

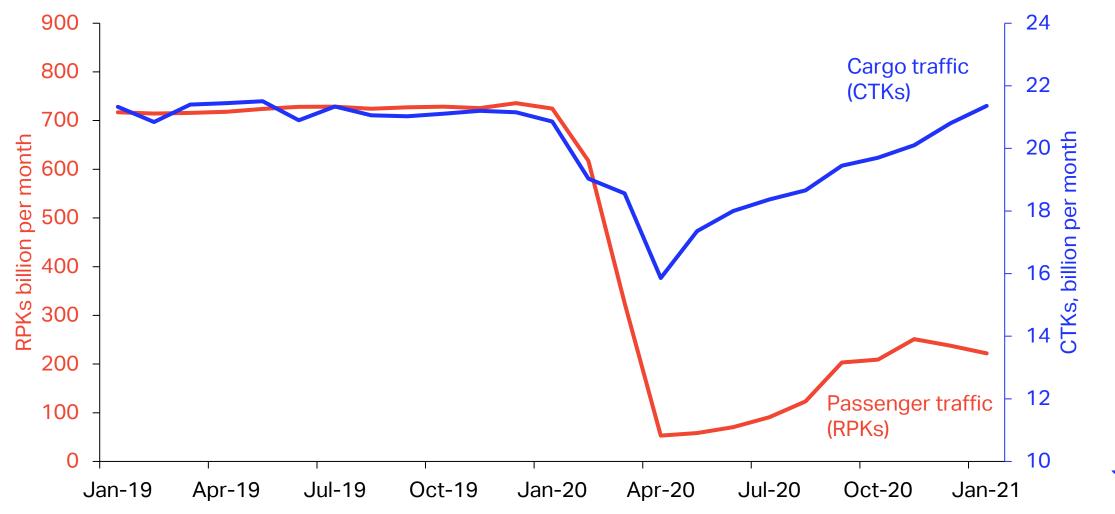
**Chief Economist** 

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021



#### Setback to air travel, but cargo regains pre-crisis traffic Global RPKs fell to -72% vs Jan 2019, but cargo tonne km 1.1% higher

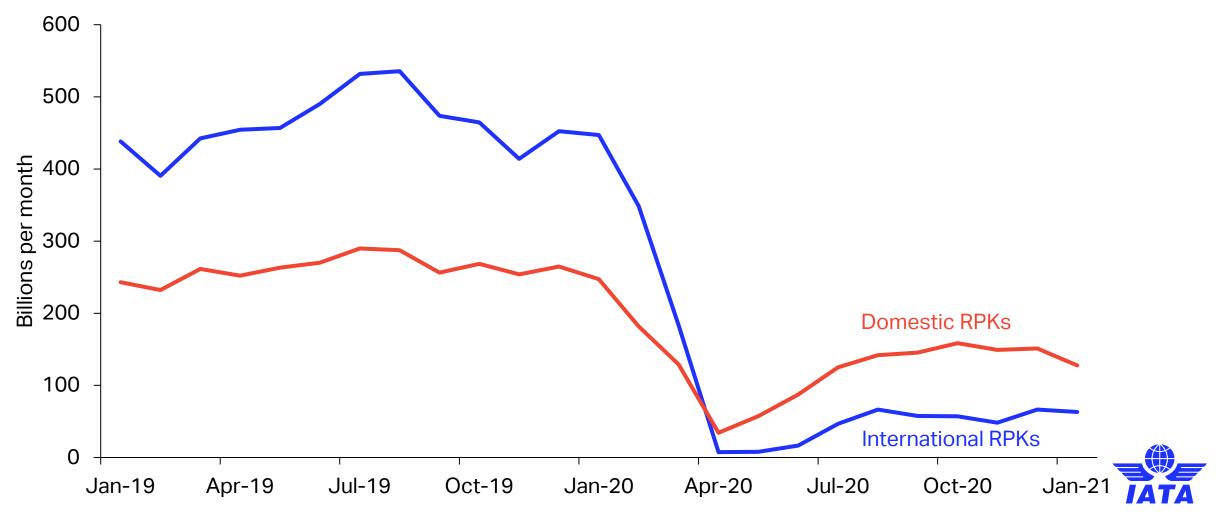




Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics. Data is adjusted for seasonality.

#### January weakness due to a fall in domestic air travel Domestic RPKs down 47.4% on pre-crisis level. International down 85.6%

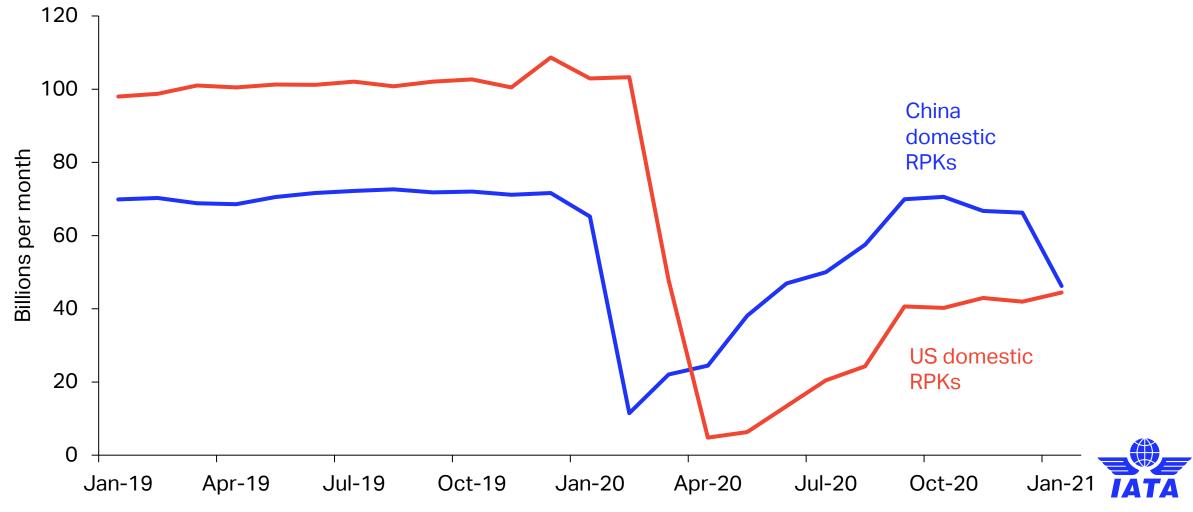
Global RPKs on international and domestic markets, billions per month



Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics. Data is not adjusted for seasonality.

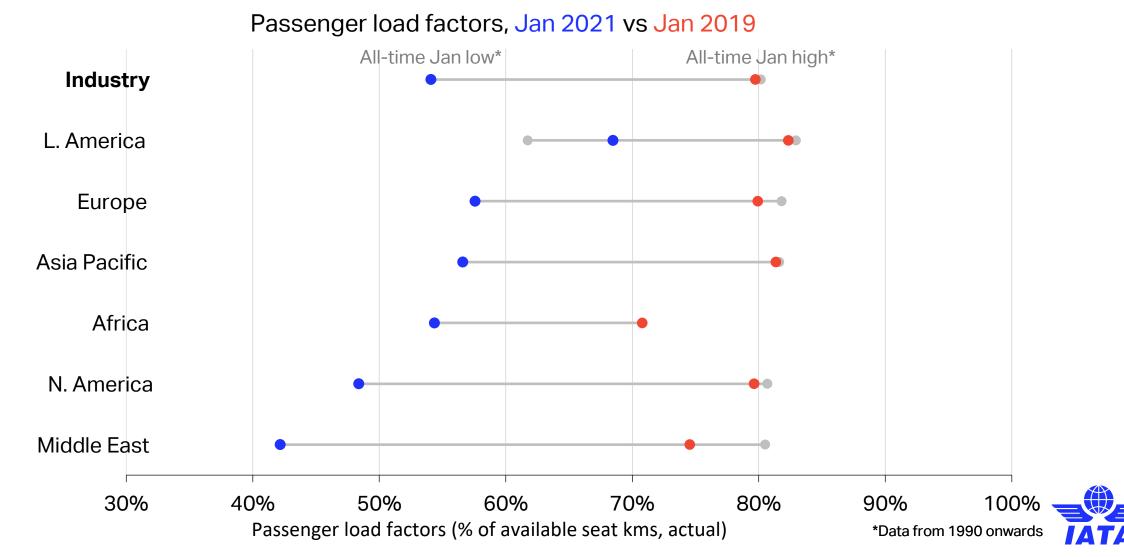
#### Air travel setback due to China domestic market fall Travel restrictions weakened China. US domestic increases but slow

Passenger km flown (RPKs) on domestic markets, billions per month



Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics. Data is adjusted for seasonality

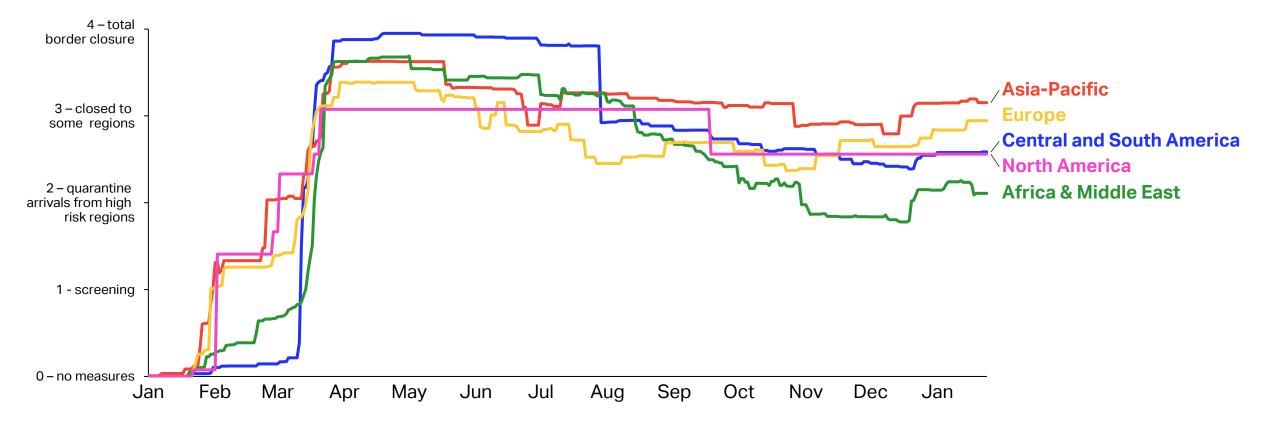
#### Passenger load factors lows despite service cutbacks Industry load factor 25.7 % points lower than pre-crisis levels at 54.1%



Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics

#### Travel fell as governments imposed tighter restrictions International travel restrictions up, and domestic restrictions also rose

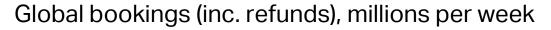
International travel stringency index weighted by population (Jan 2020-Jan 2021)

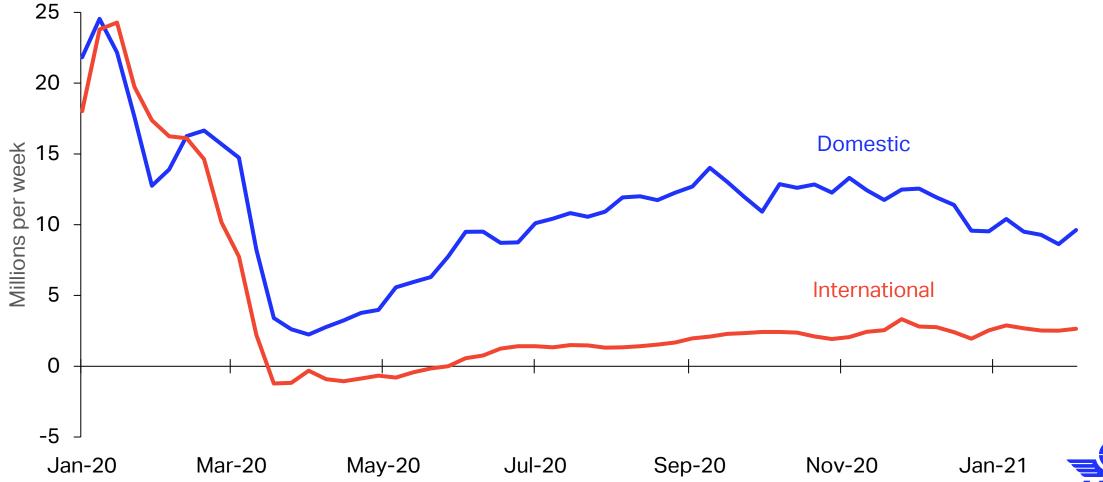




Source: IATA Economics using data from Oxford University

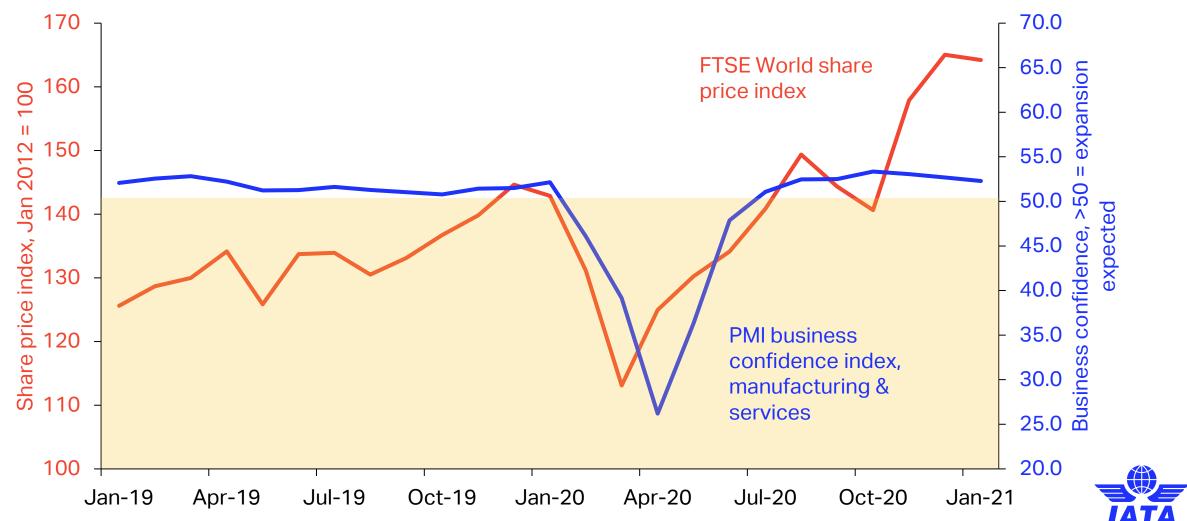
#### The air passenger business will worsen before improving Travel restrictions still tightening, and China domestic travel fell in Feb





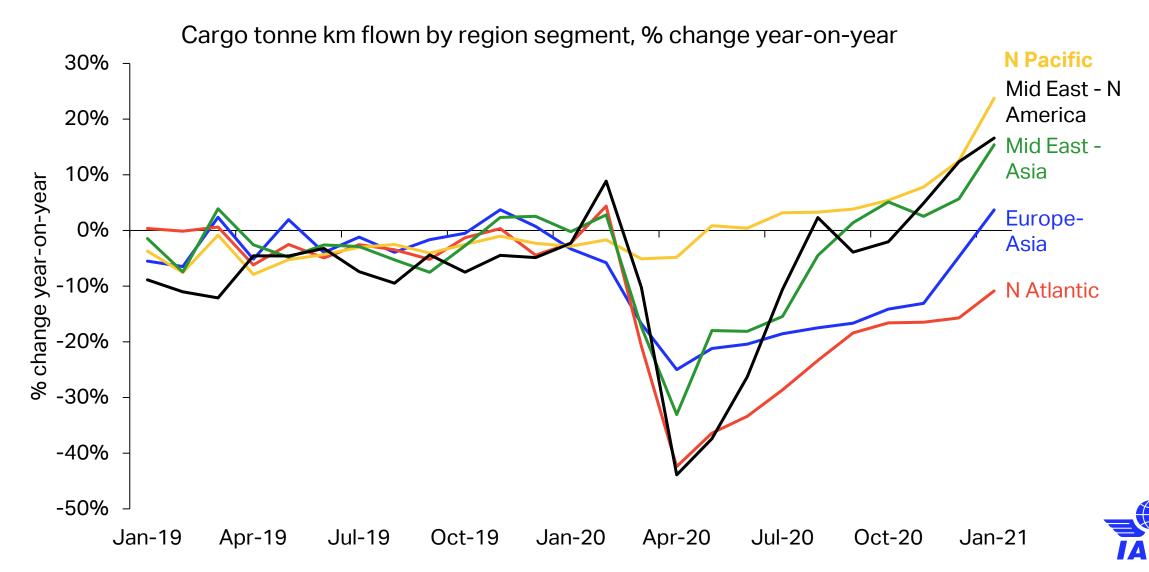
# Business and financial markets expecting strong economic rebound

Global business confidence and share prices



Source: IATA Economics using data from Markit, Definitiv Datastream

#### Driving strong demand for air cargo services Strongest trade lanes between Asia & N America and over M East hubs



Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics

## Contacts

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