COVID-19
Air travel reaching a turning point

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Air travel worldwide almost entirely stopped in April. Traffic (RPKs) fell 94% and capacity (ASKs) shrank by 87% versus 2019.

Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics
International shutdown in April seen in all regions
Mostly repatriation passenger flights only

Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics
China’s domestic market was the exception. Other domestic and all international markets saw virtually no air travel.

Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics
Load factors slump to all-time lows, but China improving. Industry load factor down to 36.6%, China domestic rises to 66.4%.

- Industry: 36.6% (Apr 2020), 83.1% (Apr 2019)
- Latin America: 55.0% (Apr 2020), 82.1% (Apr 2019)
- Asia Pacific: 53.8% (Apr 2020), 82.0% (Apr 2019)
- Europe: 32.0% (Apr 2020), 85.2% (Apr 2019)
- Middle East: 28.4% (Apr 2020), 80.4% (Apr 2019)
- Northern America: 15.0% (Apr 2020), 84.8% (Apr 2019)
- Africa: 11.1% (Apr 2020), 73.9% (Apr 2019)
- Domestic China: 66.4% (Apr 2020), 85.1% (Apr 2019)

*Data from 1990 onwards

Source: IATA Economics using data from IATA Statistics
Increase in flights suggests April was the low point
Flights rose 30% in May from April low, though still 73% down on 1 Jan

Source: IATA Economics analysis based on data provided under license by FlightRadar 24. All rights reserved.
Business confidence has turned up in key economies.

Economic low point reached in April in developed economies.

Source: IATA Economics using data from Markit
Air fares for travel on domestic markets in May are 23% lower y-o-y.
Flight increases were concentrated in domestic markets. 3 key Asian domestic markets are now within ~25% of 2019 levels.

Source: IATA Economics analysis based on data provided under license by FlightRadar24. All rights reserved.
Easing of restrictions on international travel in sight
Neighbouring countries in bilateral agreements to accept passengers

May 18th 2020
Bloomberg Business
*International Airline Travel Creeps Back With ‘Bubble’ Corridors*

May 6th 2020
Simple Flying
*Here’s What The Trans-Tasman Bubble Will Mean For Aviation*

28 May 2020
The Telegraph
*Travel restrictions: 'Air bridges' could be in place by end of June*

21st May 2020
News.com.au
*China, South Korea launch ‘travel corridors’ to allow for flights*
Increase in air travel related Google searches in May
Searches for ‘air travel’ 60% down on January, but up 25% from April low

Source: IATA Air Travel Pulse, designed by McKinsey & Company; Google Trends

Google searches worldwide on the issues of 'Covid19' and 'air travel'

Searches for 'Covid19'

Searches for 'air travel'

+25%
Bookings data also suggests we are at a turning point. Consumers booking later, but significant though small rise throughout May.

Source: IATA Economics using data from DDS.
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