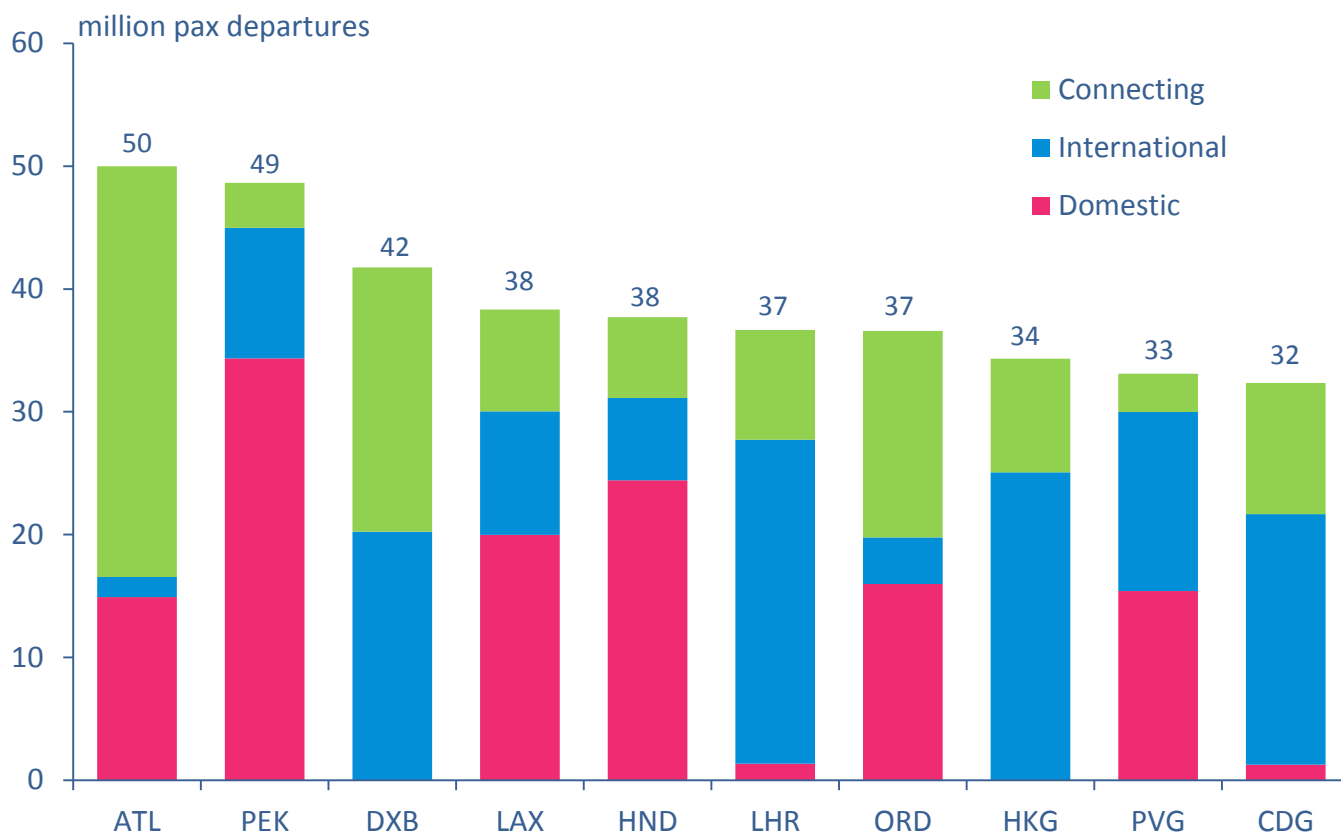# IATA ECONOMICS' CHART OF THE WEEK

24 MARCH 2017

COMPOSITION OF DEPARTURES VARIES WIDELY AT AN AIRPORT LEVEL

million pax departures

Legend: Connecting, International, Domestic

Values above bars: ATL 50, PEK 49, DXB 42, LAX 38, HND 38, LHR 37, ORD 37, HKG 34, PVG 33, CDG 32

Source: IATA Pax-IS

- In a recent COTW, we looked at the number of global passenger departures in 2016 on the basis of the country of departure. The same data can be extracted from the IATA PaxIS database at an airport level as shown this week.

- The top three airport rankings – as was the case at the country level – were unchanged in 2016, with Atlanta (ATL) retaining top position with 50 million passenger departures in 2016. Beijing (PEK) and Dubai (DXB) followed, ranked #2 and #3 respectively, with 49 million and 42 million passenger departures.

- In terms of the main movers on this year's ranking, Los Angeles (LAX) moved from #6 to #4 and Shanghai (PVG) from #11 into the top 10 (displacing Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW)) at #9.

- The fastest growing airports in the top 10 are PVG (with departures up 8.7% in 2016 compared with 2015), followed by DXB (up 7.6%) and LAX (up 6.8%).

- One interesting feature of the airport level data is the strikingly different composition of departures across airports. In ATL for example, connecting passengers account for ⅔ of total departures, consistent with that airport's hub status for Delta airlines. DXB also has an outsized proportion of connecting traffic, reflecting its 'super-connector' role. PEK and Tokyo (HND), in contrast, have a very high proportion of domestic departures, at 71% and 65% respectively, followed by LAX at 52%. The highest proportions of international departures in the Top 10 airports are Hong Kong (HKG) and London (LHR) at 73% and 72%, with Paris (CDG) also rating highly at 63%.