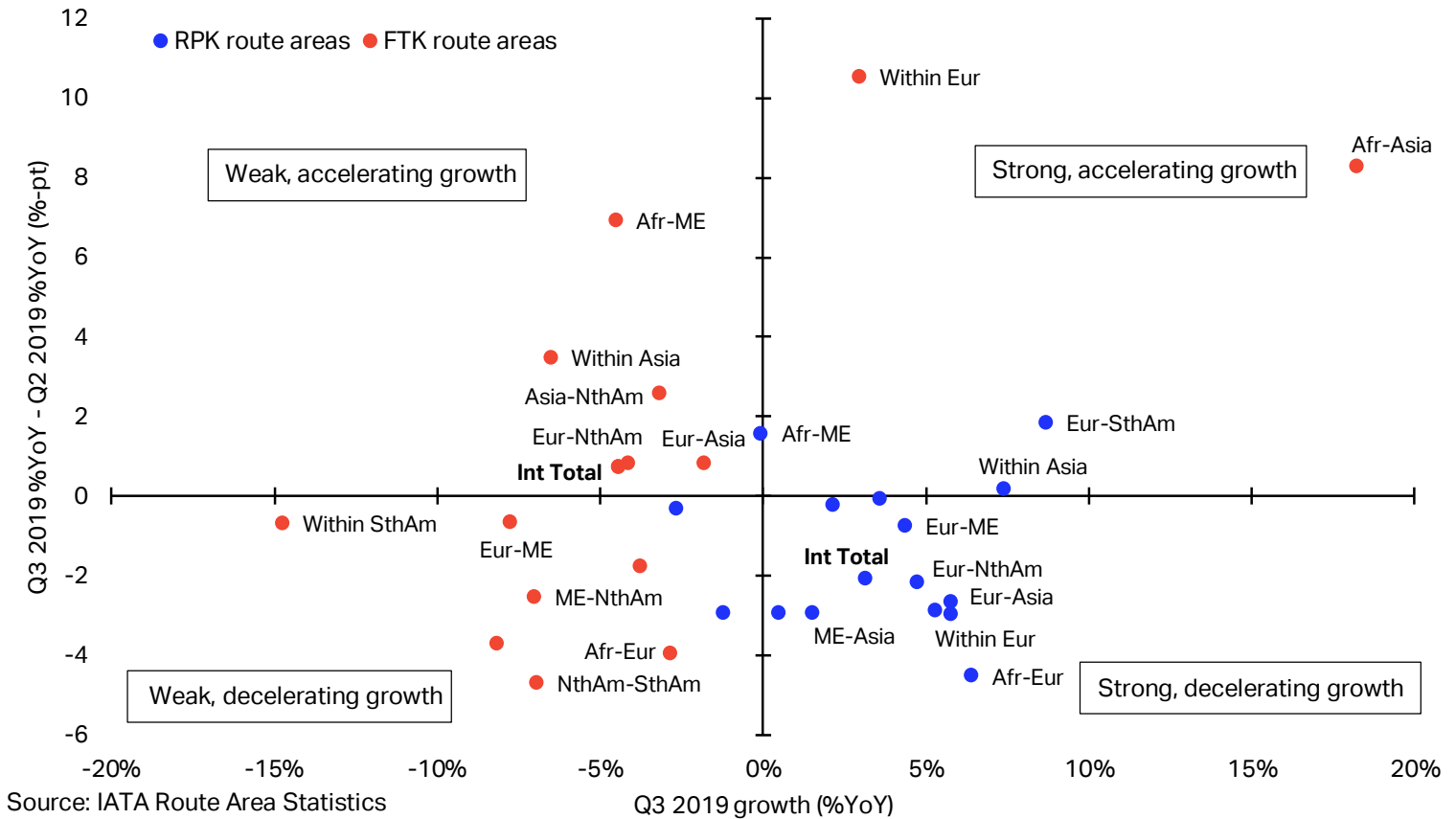




IATA Economics' Chart of the Week

22 November 2019

Diverging growth momentum for pax and cargo across key routes



Source: IATA Route Area Statistics

- Our latest monthly [passenger](#) and [freight](#) notes pointed to modest growth in global RPKs which contrasted with falling FTKs over the year to September. Today's chart looks at developments at the route area level, which highlights the variation underlying the industry-wide outcomes. The chart shows the yoy growth rate in RPKs and FTKs for Q3 2019 on the horizontal axis and whether that rate is higher or lower than in Q2 (a simple measure of momentum) on the vertical axis.
- Unsurprisingly, most of the FTK (red) outcomes lie to the left of the vertical axis and most of the RPK (blue) outcomes lie to the right. This is consistent with the industry-wide results noted above. What is of more interest, however, is the momentum behind some of the recent developments. For some freight markets FTK volumes are lower than a year ago and the situation deteriorated further in Q3 – the bottom left quadrant. But there are a number of markets which may have turned the corner – annual growth is currently still negative, but has improved in the latest quarter (top left quadrant). Total international freight volumes fall into that category.
- The story is less positive for the international passenger segment. While the main markets continue to grow (ie to the right of the vertical axis), the growth momentum has turned down. Most of the key markets are now in the bottom right quadrant where annual growth is positive but slowing – including the total international RPK result.
- Recent signs of a thawing in trade relationships and the ongoing sideways trend in seasonally adjusted total global volumes, indicate that the worst may be behind us on the freight side. However, the opposite is evident in passenger traffic where a further slowing could be in prospect amid signs of a weaker global economic backdrop and a deterioration in business confidence.

Terms and Conditions for the use of this IATA Economics Report and its contents can be found here: www.iata.org/economics-terms
By using this IATA Economics Report and its contents in any manner, you agree that the IATA Economics Report Terms and Conditions apply to you and agree to abide by them. If you do not accept these Terms and Conditions, do not use this report.

IATA Economics
economics@iata.org

www.iata.org/economics

See the mobile version: [iOS](#) and [Android](#)