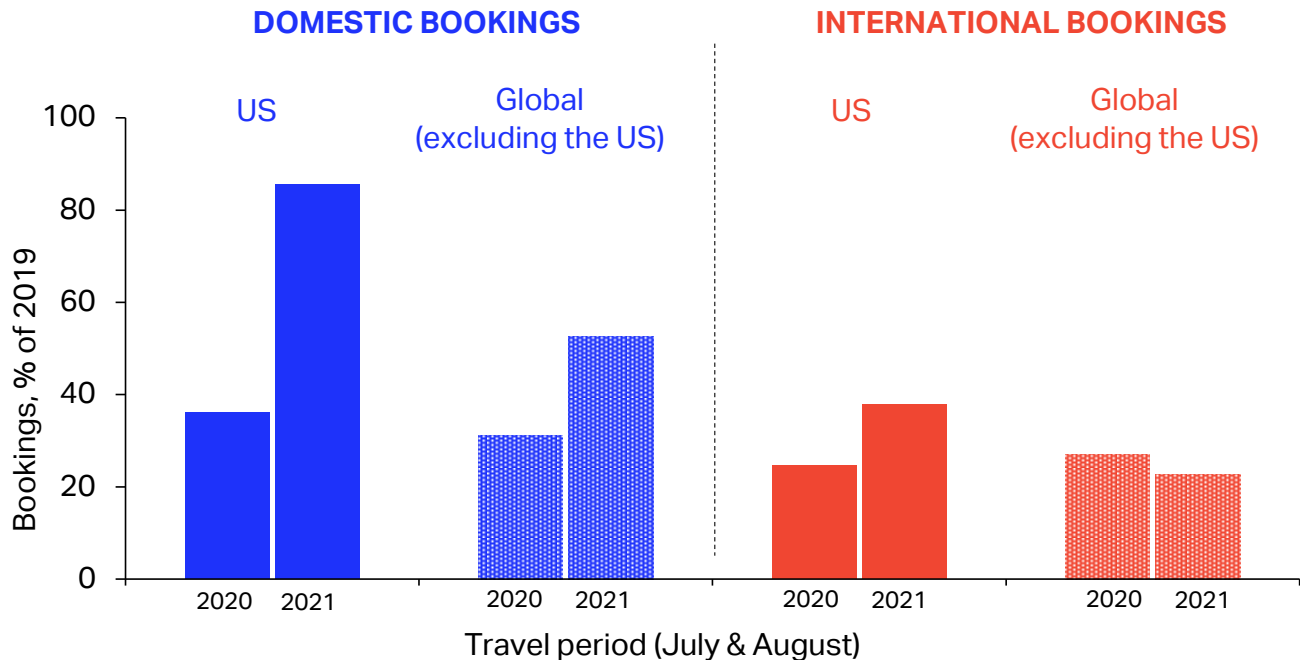




## Domestic summer bookings close to pre-crisis levels in the US

### Cumulative bookings for summer travel (Jul-Aug), % of 2019



Source: IATA Economics using data from DDS

- With the northern-hemisphere summer approaching, we have seen a robust uptick in July-August travel bookings in some of the key domestic markets that managed to get the pandemic largely under control. Our weekly chart shows that one of the key outperformers has been the US, where the sharp fall in virus cases and quick vaccine rollout allowed the loosening of restrictions and the release of pent-up travel demand. Indeed, the country's domestic bookings for the summer reached 85% of the 2019 levels – a significant improvement vs. the dramatically low levels a year ago (36% of 2019).
- Developments in the rest of the domestic markets have been mixed so far. Russia bookings trend above the pre-crisis levels amidst booming domestic tourism since international trips are restricted. In contrast, bookings in India remain very weak (~10% of 2019) as the country deals with variants. Overall, despite some improvement in June amid vaccination, global domestic summer bookings (excl. the US) have been about half of the pre-crisis levels, indicating that there is a long way to go to the full recovery.
- International travel demand has been muted. Although US international summer bookings improved compared with last year – driven by trips to a near-by Caribbean and Central America – they are almost 70% below where they were in 2019. In the rest of the world, the international summer bookings seem for now lower than in 2020. However, cancellation rate in 2020 was higher than usual and travelers are nowadays booking late, so the 2021 international summer travel could still be better than in 2020.
- The signs of recovering domestic demand are certainly good news for the air travel market. However, airlines' near-term financial situation will remain challenging since it is the currently-muted international travel that represents a key source of global passenger revenues (60% in 2019).

Terms and Conditions for the use of this IATA Economics Report and its contents can be found here: [www.iata.org/economics-terms](http://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](mailto:economics@iata.org)