Today’s Chart of the Week ranks the Top 25 airports in the world, on the basis of the total number of departing passengers (segment-based) over the course of 2015. The data are sourced from IATA’s Pax-IS database (and differ slightly to those compiled by, for example, ACI).

All of the usual suspects are shown, with Atlanta retaining top position again this year. Likewise, Beijing maintains second place while Dubai overtakes Tokyo-Haneda for third.

The number of departing passengers ranges from 22.7 million in Delhi (ranked #25) to just above 48 million for Atlanta in top position. The rate of growth in the number of passengers in 2015 varies between a very strong 17.6% for Shanghai to a moderate decline of 1.7% for Denver.

Geographically, of the Top 25: 11 are located in the Asia Pacific region (red shaded bars), including 3 in China; 7 are in North America (blue bars), all in the United States; 6 are in Europe (green); and 1 in the Middle East (orange).

Compared with their rankings of two years ago, the mantle of biggest mover is shared by Delhi and Shanghai, both of which have risen 9 places to #25 and #11, respectively. Istanbul also deserves a notable mention, up 5 places to #14. On the flip side, Denver has slipped back 4 positions to #20 in 2015.

Source: IATA Pax-IS