

Aviation

Civil Aviation, Quarterly Operating and Financial Statistics, Canadian Air Carriers, Levels I and II



First Quarter 2012 to Fourth Quarter 2012

Highlights

- In 2012, Canadian Level I and II air carriers reported 65.2 million enplaned passengers in their scheduled and charter operations, up 6.4% from 2011. The scheduled passenger counts totalled 59.8 million and the charter passenger counts, 5.4 million. The scheduled passenger counts reached 16.6 million in the third quarter of 2012, the highest number ever recorded for a quarter, surpassing the 15.7 million reported in the same quarter of 2011. In terms of passenger-kilometres flown, these carriers recorded 155.0 billion passenger-kilometres in their scheduled and charter operations in 2012, up 6.2% from the previous year.
- In 2012, Canadian Level I and II air carriers reported a slight improvement in their scheduled passenger load factor (a measure of the fullness of their aircraft) compared to 2011. The passenger load factor improved from 81.5% in 2011 to 82.9% in 2012, as the demand, as measured by passenger-kilometres, advanced at a slightly faster pace (+4.6%) than the supply (capacity), as measured by available seat-kilometres (+2.8%). The passenger load factor on scheduled flights reached an all-time high (86.4%) in the third quarter of 2012 — largely due to a stronger increase in demand than in capacity; in the same quarter in 2011, it had reached 85.2%. The capacity increased in the four quarters of 2012, continuing the upward trend that began in the fourth quarter of 2009 at the end of the economic downturn which started to impact Canada and the rest of the world in the second half of 2008.
- In 2012, the total operating revenues generated by the Canadian Level I and II air carriers amounted to \$19.1 billion, up 6.9% (or +\$1.2 billion) from 2011. The growth in operating revenues (passenger revenues accounted for 89.5% of total operating revenues in 2012) can be mainly tied to a yield (passenger revenues per passenger-kilometre) increase of 0.5% driven by the recovery in the Canadian economy and in the airline industry, increased air fares and fuel surcharges. Another factor in the yield improvement was the favourable impact of a weaker Canadian dollar on foreign currency denominated passenger revenues. The total operating expenses amounted to \$18.0 billion in 2012, up 4.3% (or +\$0.7 billion) from the previous year. This rise was led by airline capacity growth, higher fuel prices, and increased wages and salaries paid. These carriers reported an operating income of \$1.1 billion in 2012.
- Canadian Level I and II air carriers reported a net income of \$740.6 million in 2012, an improvement in profitability from the \$63.0 million profit recorded in 2011 and the highest level since the all-time high recorded in 2007 (\$868.3 million). This substantial increase was largely accounted for by non-operating income of \$42.2 million in the third quarter of 2012 in contrast to non-operating expenses of \$386.8 million in the same quarter of 2011. In addition, operating expenses grew much slower than did operating revenues in the third and fourth quarters of 2012 compared with the same quarters in the prior year. However, the non-operating expenses of \$309.1 million in the first two quarters of 2012 combined dampened the increase in net income.

- Between the first quarter of 2012 and the fourth quarter of 2012, the operating ratio (it displays the carrier's ability to meet its short-term obligations and represents the proportion of operating revenue absorbed by operating expenses) ranged between 0.87 in the third quarter and 0.99 in the first quarter. Overall, this means that the Canadian Level I and II air carriers earned 13.0 cents of profit for every dollar spent in the third quarter of 2012 and 1.0 cent of profit in the first quarter. An operating ratio greater than one would indicate that these carriers experienced an operating loss.
- Between the first quarter of 2012 and the fourth quarter of 2012, the highest profit margin (it indicates the profit margin earned by revenue dollar and is obtained by dividing net income by operating revenue — this ratio is expressed as a percentage) was recorded in the third quarter (13.5%). This shows that every dollar of service sold earned 13.5 cents of profit for the Canadian Level I and II air carriers. The negative result for the first quarter (-1.6%) reflected the increases in operating expenses (aircraft operations — fuel cost and salaries and wages) and non-operating expenses, which offset the gains in operating revenues. The higher profit margin in the third quarter resulted from an increase in operating revenues, and in non-operating income, while operating expenses exhibited much lower growth.
- In 2012, the operating revenue per employee varied from \$88,915 in the fourth quarter to \$106,509 in the third quarter. This employee productivity measure showed quarterly year-over-year increases from 2011 to 2012, the gains ranging from 0.8% in the fourth quarter to 9.2% in the first quarter. Another yardstick used to measure productivity within the aviation industry is to calculate tonne-kilometres flown per employee. According to this measure, labour productivity in 2012 bettered the previous year level in all quarters except for the fourth. The changes ranged from a decline of 0.3% in the fourth quarter to an increase of 7.3% in the first quarter. As in the previous year, the tonne-kilometres flown per employee were highest in the third quarter, at 100,122.
- Total employment reported by Canadian Level I and II air carriers rose in each quarter of 2012 compared to the previous year, the gains ranging from 1.9% in the first and third quarters to 3.6% in the fourth quarter. The string of quarterly year-over-year increases for total wages and salaries paid by Canadian Level I and II air carriers that began in the fourth quarter of 2005 continued in each quarter of 2012.

Statistical Tables

Table 1

Financial performance indicators, Canadian air carriers, Levels I and II – First quarter 2011 to fourth quarter 2012

| | Operating ratio | Profit margin |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | ratio | percent |
| 2011 | | |
| First quarter | 1.00 | 1.0 |
| Second quarter | 0.96 | 0.8 |
| Third quarter | 0.92 | 0.6 |
| Fourth quarter | 1.00 | -1.1 |
| 2012 | | |
| First quarter | 0.99 | -1.6 |
| Second quarter | 0.96 | 0.3 |
| Third quarter | 0.87 | 13.5 |
| Fourth quarter | 0.96 | 2.2 |

Table 2

Productivity measures, Canadian air carriers, Levels I and II – First quarter 2011 to fourth quarter 2012

| | Operating revenue per employee | Tonne-kilometres flown per employee |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| | dollars | tonne-kilometres |
| 2011 | | |
| First quarter | 89,940 | 87,086 |
| Second quarter | 93,175 | 86,842 |
| Third quarter | 102,647 | 97,794 |
| Fourth quarter | 88,205 | 79,391 |
| 2012 | | |
| First quarter | 98,194 | 93,430 |
| Second quarter | 96,381 | 89,638 |
| Third quarter | 106,509 | 100,122 |
| Fourth quarter | 88,915 | 79,191 |
| | % change from 2011 to 2012 | |
| First quarter | 9.2 | 7.3 |
| Second quarter | 3.4 | 3.2 |
| Third quarter | 3.8 | 2.4 |
| Fourth quarter | 0.8 | -0.3 |

Table 3
Operating statistics – First quarter of 2011 and 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 | Change from 2011 to 2012 |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| | thousands | | percent |
| All services | | | |
| Number of carriers included ¹ | 24 | 25 | 4.2 |
| Passengers | 15,259 | 16,743 | 9.7 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 169,670 | 168,440 | -0.7 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 36,189,573 | 39,790,288 | 9.9 |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 3,618,957 | 3,979,029 | 9.9 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 537,206 | 564,848 | 5.1 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 4,156,163 | 4,543,877 | 9.3 |
| Hours flown | 564 | 602 | 6.6 |
| Scheduled services | | | |
| Passengers | 13,434 | 14,485 | 7.8 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 95,547 | 84,833 | -11.2 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 30,662,807 | 32,998,416 | 7.6 |
| Available seat-kilometres | 38,570,317 | 40,974,927 | 6.2 |
| Passenger load factor (percent) | 79.5 | 80.5 | ... |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 3,066,281 | 3,299,842 | 7.6 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 440,316 | 456,028 | 3.6 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 3,506,597 | 3,755,869 | 7.1 |
| Available tonne-kilometres | 5,266,908 | 5,511,828 | 4.7 |
| Weight load factor (percent) | 66.6 | 68.1 | ... |
| Hours flown | 496 | 517 | 4.3 |
| Charter services | | | |
| Passengers | 1,825 | 2,258 | 23.7 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 74,122 | 83,608 | 12.8 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 5,526,765 | 6,791,873 | 22.9 |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 552,677 | 679,187 | 22.9 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 96,890 | 108,821 | 12.3 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 649,566 | 788,008 | 21.3 |
| Hours flown | 69 | 84 | 22.7 |

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Table 4
Income statement – First quarter of 2011 and 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 | Change from 2011 to 2012 |
|--|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| | thousands of dollars | | percent |
| Operating revenues | | | |
| Scheduled services | 3,601,778 | 3,981,585 | 10.5 |
| Passengers | 3,418,679 | 3,806,536 | 11.3 |
| Goods | 183,099 | 175,049 | -4.4 |
| Charter services | 525,347 | 588,345 | 12.0 |
| Passengers | 447,088 | 493,954 | 10.5 |
| Goods | 78,260 | 94,391 | 20.6 |
| Other revenues (including subsidies) | 165,267 | 205,618 | 24.4 |
| Total operating revenues | 4,292,392 | 4,775,548 | 11.3 |
| Operating expenses | | | |
| Total operating expenses | 4,287,844 | 4,723,694 | 10.2 |
| Non-operating income (expenses) | | | |
| Total non-operating income (expenses), net (including provision for income taxes) | 37,042 | -126,443 | ... |
| Net income (loss) | 41,590 | -74,588 | ... |
| Employment expenses | | | |
| Average number of employees ¹ | 47,725 | 48,634 | 1.9 |
| Total wages and salaries paid | 724,091 | 790,245 | 9.1 |

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Table 5
Operating statistics – Second quarter of 2011 and 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 | Change from 2011 to 2012 |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| | thousands | | percent |
| All services | | | |
| Number of carriers included ¹ | 25 | 25 | 0.0 |
| Passengers | 15,073 | 15,927 | 5.7 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 172,924 | 170,702 | -1.3 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 35,764,041 | 38,132,890 | 6.6 |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 3,576,404 | 3,813,289 | 6.6 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 536,707 | 546,895 | 1.9 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 4,113,111 | 4,360,184 | 6.0 |
| Hours flown | 559 | 580 | 3.7 |
| Scheduled services | | | |
| Passengers | 14,161 | 14,769 | 4.3 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 98,888 | 85,795 | -13.2 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 33,391,093 | 34,838,503 | 4.3 |
| Available seat-kilometres | 40,890,886 | 41,902,635 | 2.5 |
| Passenger load factor (percent) | 81.7 | 83.1 | ... |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 3,339,109 | 3,483,850 | 4.3 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 435,388 | 440,306 | 1.1 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 3,774,497 | 3,924,156 | 4.0 |
| Available tonne-kilometres | 5,593,930 | 5,656,361 | 1.1 |
| Weight load factor (percent) | 67.5 | 69.4 | ... |
| Hours flown | 511 | 523 | 2.3 |
| Charter services | | | |
| Passengers | 912 | 1,158 | 26.9 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 74,036 | 84,907 | 14.7 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 2,372,947 | 3,294,387 | 38.8 |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 237,295 | 329,439 | 38.8 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 101,319 | 106,590 | 5.2 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 338,614 | 436,028 | 28.8 |
| Hours flown | 48 | 57 | 18.5 |

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Table 6
Income statement – Second quarter of 2011 and 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 | Change from 2011 to 2012 |
|--|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | thousands of dollars | | percent |
| Operating revenues | | | |
| Scheduled services | 3,910,044 | 4,073,436 | 4.2 |
| Passengers | 3,716,567 | 3,888,369 | 4.6 |
| Goods | 193,477 | 185,067 | -4.3 |
| Charter services | 324,614 | 384,619 | 18.5 |
| Passengers | 237,274 | 286,096 | 20.6 |
| Goods | 87,339 | 98,523 | 12.8 |
| Other revenues (including subsidies) | 178,388 | 230,089 | 29.0 |
| Total operating revenues | 4,413,045 | 4,688,144 | 6.2 |
| Operating expenses | | | |
| Total operating expenses | 4,254,521 | 4,492,528 | 5.6 |
| Non-operating income (expenses) | | | |
| Total non-operating income (expenses), net (including provision for income taxes) | -123,429 | -182,613 | 47.9 |
| Net income (loss) | 35,095 | 13,003 | -62.9 |
| Employment expenses | | | |
| Average number of employees ¹ | 47,363 | 48,642 | 2.7 |
| Total wages and salaries paid | 769,882 | 818,476 | 6.3 |

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Table 7
Operating statistics – Third quarter of 2011 and 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 | Change from 2011 to 2012 |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| | thousands | | percent |
| All services | | | |
| Number of carriers included ¹ | 25 | 25 | 0.0 |
| Passengers | 16,470 | 17,471 | 6.1 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 172,658 | 171,139 | -0.9 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 41,550,680 | 43,421,852 | 4.5 |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 4,155,068 | 4,342,185 | 4.5 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 551,446 | 569,907 | 3.3 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 4,706,514 | 4,912,092 | 4.4 |
| Hours flown | 601 | 615 | 2.4 |
| Scheduled services | | | |
| Passengers | 15,740 | 16,553 | 5.2 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 102,628 | 89,091 | -13.2 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 39,697,270 | 41,030,861 | 3.4 |
| Available seat-kilometres | 46,574,471 | 47,515,933 | 2.0 |
| Passenger load factor (percent) | 85.2 | 86.4 | ... |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 3,969,727 | 4,103,086 | 3.4 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 462,431 | 466,331 | 0.8 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 4,432,158 | 4,569,417 | 3.1 |
| Available tonne-kilometres | 6,383,806 | 6,449,915 | 1.0 |
| Weight load factor (percent) | 69.4 | 70.8 | ... |
| Hours flown | 555 | 564 | 1.5 |
| Charter services | | | |
| Passengers | 730 | 917 | 25.6 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 70,030 | 82,048 | 17.2 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 1,853,410 | 2,390,990 | 29.0 |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 185,341 | 239,099 | 29.0 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 89,015 | 103,576 | 16.4 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 274,356 | 342,675 | 24.9 |
| Hours flown | 45 | 51 | 13.5 |

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Table 8
Income statement – Third quarter of 2011 and 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 | Change from 2011 to 2012 |
|--|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| | thousands of dollars | | percent |
| Operating revenues | | | |
| Scheduled services | 4,494,100 | 4,684,764 | 4.2 |
| Passengers | 4,293,167 | 4,504,376 | 4.9 |
| Goods | 200,933 | 180,388 | -10.2 |
| Charter services | 280,507 | 350,793 | 25.1 |
| Passengers | 203,209 | 259,322 | 27.6 |
| Goods | 77,298 | 91,471 | 18.3 |
| Other revenues (including subsidies) | 165,484 | 189,885 | 14.7 |
| Total operating revenues | 4,940,090 | 5,225,443 | 5.8 |
| Operating expenses | | | |
| Total operating expenses | 4,522,435 | 4,563,960 | 0.9 |
| Non-operating income (expenses) | | | |
| Total non-operating income (expenses), net (including provision for income taxes) | -386,817 | 42,192 | ... |
| Net income (loss) | 30,838 | 703,675 | ... |
| Employment expenses | | | |
| Average number of employees ¹ | 48,127 | 49,061 | 1.9 |
| Total wages and salaries paid | 753,440 | 804,969 | 6.8 |

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Table 9
Operating statistics – Fourth quarter of 2011 and 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 | Change from 2011 to 2012 |
|--|------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| | thousands | | percent |
| All services | | | |
| Number of carriers included ¹ | 25 | 25 | 0.0 |
| Passengers | 14,507 | 15,081 | 4.0 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 173,242 | 172,062 | -0.7 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 32,553,310 | 33,697,081 | 3.5 |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 3,255,331 | 3,369,708 | 3.5 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 557,591 | 571,701 | 2.5 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 3,812,922 | 3,941,409 | 3.4 |
| Hours flown | 553 | 555 | 0.4 |
| Scheduled services | | | |
| Passengers | 13,482 | 13,966 | 3.6 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 99,460 | 87,810 | -11.7 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 29,605,417 | 30,590,265 | 3.3 |
| Available seat-kilometres | 37,590,664 | 37,745,060 | 0.4 |
| Passenger load factor (percent) | 78.8 | 81.0 | ... |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 2,960,542 | 3,059,027 | 3.3 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 457,329 | 456,447 | -0.2 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 3,417,870 | 3,515,473 | 2.9 |
| Available tonne-kilometres | 5,107,993 | 5,096,367 | -0.2 |
| Weight load factor (percent) | 66.9 | 69.0 | ... |
| Hours flown | 499 | 499 | 0.0 |
| Charter services | | | |
| Passengers | 1,025 | 1,115 | 8.8 |
| Goods carried (kilograms) | 73,783 | 84,252 | 14.2 |
| Passenger-kilometres | 2,947,893 | 3,106,815 | 5.4 |
| Passenger tonne-kilometres | 294,789 | 310,682 | 5.4 |
| Goods tonne-kilometres | 100,263 | 115,254 | 15.0 |
| Total tonne-kilometres | 395,052 | 425,936 | 7.8 |
| Hours flown | 54 | 56 | 4.1 |

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Table 10
Income statement – Fourth quarter of 2011 and 2012

| | 2011 | 2012 | Change from 2011 to 2012 |
|--|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | thousands of dollars | | percent |
| Operating revenues | | | |
| Scheduled services | 3,642,041 | 3,774,184 | 3.6 |
| Passengers | 3,450,261 | 3,592,529 | 4.1 |
| Goods | 191,781 | 181,654 | -5.3 |
| Charter services | 357,009 | 378,880 | 6.1 |
| Passengers | 279,697 | 284,813 | 1.8 |
| Goods | 77,312 | 94,066 | 21.7 |
| Other revenues (including subsidies) | 237,148 | 272,317 | 14.8 |
| Total operating revenues | 4,236,198 | 4,425,381 | 4.5 |
| Operating expenses | | | |
| Total operating expenses | 4,238,023 | 4,269,361 | 0.7 |
| Non-operating income (expenses) | | | |
| Total non-operating income (expenses), net (including provision for income taxes) | -42,678 | -57,549 | 34.8 |
| Net income (loss) | -44,503 | 98,470 | ... |
| Employment expenses | | | |
| Average number of employees ¹ | 48,027 | 49,771 | 3.6 |
| Total wages and salaries paid | 790,668 | 848,504 | 7.3 |

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

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The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| . | not available for any reference period |
| .. | not available for a specific reference period |
| ... | not applicable |
| 0 | true zero or a value rounded to zero |
| 0 ^s | value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded |
| P | preliminary |
| r | revised |
| x | suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i> |
| E | use with caution |
| F | too unreliable to be published |
| * | significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$) |

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