

## Aviation

# Airport Activity: Air Carrier Traffic at Canadian Airports, 2016



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- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| .              | 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 <sup>s</sup> | value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded |
| <sup>p</sup>   | preliminary  |
| <sup>r</sup>   | revised  |
| x              | suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>                                   |
| <sup>E</sup>   | use with caution   |
| F              | too unreliable to be published   |
| *              | significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )   |

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## Highlights

The number of passengers enplaned and deplaned at Canadian airports reached 140.2 million in 2016, an increase of 5.0% compared to the previous year. It was the seventh consecutive annual increase following the economic slowdown of 2009.

Increased activity at several of the country's largest airports including: Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International (+8.0%), Vancouver International (+8.4%), Montréal/Pierre Elliott Trudeau International (+6.3%), Winnipeg/James Armstrong Richardson International (+6.0%) and Halifax/Robert L. Stanfield International (+5.6%) all contributed to the strong growth in passenger traffic.

Activity at the Fort McMurray airport in Alberta was impacted by a large wildfire in May 2016. In response, all commercial air traffic at the airport was temporarily suspended until early June. As a result, passenger traffic at Fort McMurray fell 29% during the year, to 0.7 million passengers, its lowest level since 2011.

In 2016, all sectors experienced gains: the domestic sector expanded 4.8% (+3.8 million passengers), other international traffic rose 7.9% (+2.2 million) and transborder traffic (between Canada and the United States) increased 2.7% (+0.7 million).

For a third consecutive year the growth in other international passenger traffic (+7.9%) outpaced those of the domestic and transborder sectors as both Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International and Vancouver International posted strong gains of 9.5% and 15.2% respectively. Together, these airports accounted for 67% of the 29.6 million passengers who enplaned and deplaned other international flights in Canada.

The weight of cargo loaded and unloaded at Canadian airports increased 3.7% in 2016 to just over 1.2 million tonnes. Domestic cargo increased 4.6% to 553,000 tonnes. Other international cargo was up 7.0% to 437,000 tonnes, while transborder tonnages decreased 3.9% to 226,000 tonnes.

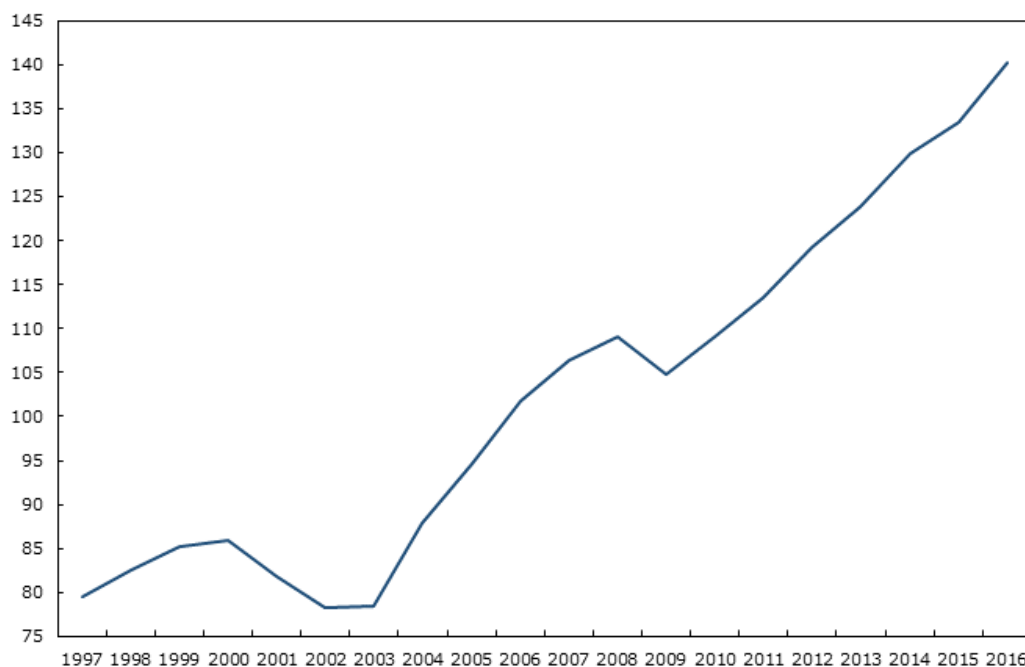
**Table 1**  
**Passenger and cargo data**

	2015	2016	Change 2015 to 2016
	number		percent
<b>Enplaned and Deplaned Passengers</b>			
Domestic sector	79,524,002	83,363,521	4.8
Transborder sector	26,499,377	27,215,419	2.7
Other International sector	27,403,324	29,576,942	7.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,426,703</b>	<b>140,155,882</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>Loaded/Unloaded Cargo (tonnes)</b>	<b>1,172,781</b>	<b>1,216,108</b>	<b>3.7</b>

**Source:** CANSIM Tables 401-0044 ([www.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a26?lang=eng&retrLang=eng&id=4010044&pattern=&stByVal=1&p1=1&p2=50&tabMode=dataTable&csid=](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a26?lang=eng&retrLang=eng&id=4010044&pattern=&stByVal=1&p1=1&p2=50&tabMode=dataTable&csid=)) and 401-0045 ([www.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a26?lang=eng&retrLang=eng&id=4010045&pattern=&stByVal=1&p1=1&p2=50&tabMode=dataTable&csid=](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a26?lang=eng&retrLang=eng&id=4010045&pattern=&stByVal=1&p1=1&p2=50&tabMode=dataTable&csid=))

**Chart 1**  
**Total enplaned/deplaned passengers**

Passengers (millions)



Source: CANSIM Table 401-0044; publication 51-203-X.

## Note to Users

### Cargo data

It is important to note that the air cargo data presented does not represent the total cargo loaded and unloaded in Canada. Comprehensive cargo data are not collected for the following reasons:

1. the regional and local scheduled carriers do not file cargo data on the airport activity survey and,
2. the major charter survey does not collect data on domestic courier cargo or domestic entity cargo flights.

Passenger flights which carry cargo on them are classified as passenger flights. The cargo carried on these passenger flights is defined as belly-hold cargo. The belly-hold cargo data are included with the pure cargo data in the cargo table, CANSIM 401-0045.

## Services offered by carriers

### Scheduled Services

ABX Air Inc.

Aer Lingus

Aeromexico

Air Algerie

Air Canada

Air China

Air Creebec Inc.

Air France

Air Georgian Limited

Air Inuit Ltd.

Air New Zealand

Air North Charter Training Ltd.

Air St Pierre

Air Tindi Ltd.

Air Transat A.T. Inc.

Air Wisconsin

Aklak Air

Alaska Airlines

Alitalia

All Nippon Airways

American Airlines

Amik Aviation Ltd.

Arkefly

Atlas Air Inc.

Austrian Airlines

Aviation Consultants Inc.

Aviation Starlink Inc.

Bearskin Airlines

Bradley Air Services Limited

British Airways

Brussels Airlines

Buffalo Airways Ltd.

Calm Air International Ltd.

Canadian North Inc.

Cargojet Airways Ltd.

Cargolux Airlines International

Caribbean Airlines

Carson Air Ltd.

Castle Aviation

Cathay Pacific Airways

Central Mountain Air Ltd.

China Airlines

China Eastern Airlines

China Southern Airlines  
Compass Airlines (North America)  
Condor Flugdienst  
Continental Airlines  
COPA  
Corilair Charters Limited  
Corse Air Intl.  
Cubana Airlines  
Delta Air Lines  
Edelweiss Air  
EgyptAir  
El Al Israel Airlines  
Emirates Airlines  
Empire Airlines  
Enerjet  
Envoy Air Inc.  
Ethiopian Airlines  
Etihad Airways  
EVA Airways Corporation  
Exploits Valley Air Services Ltd.  
ExpressJet  
FedEx  
Finnair  
Fly Jamaica Airways  
Global Aviation  
GoJet Airlines LLC  
Griffing Flying Service  
Hainan Airlines  
Harbour Air Ltd.  
Hawkair Aviation Services Ltd.  
Helijet International Inc.  
Horizon Air Industries Inc.  
Icelandair

Inland Air Charters Ltd.  
Integra Air Inc.  
Island Express Air Inc.  
JAL-Japan Airlines International Co. Ltd.  
Jazz Air Inc.  
JDR Pacific Ventures Ltd.  
Jet Airways India  
Jet Linx Aviation  
K D Air Corporation  
Keewatin Air Ltd.  
Kenmore Air Harbor Inc.  
Kenn Borek Air Ltd.  
KF Aerospace  
KLM Royal Dutch Airlines  
Korean Air  
Labrador Airways Ltd.  
LACSA  
LOT-Polish Airlines  
Lufthansa German Airlines  
McMurray Aviation  
Mesa Airlines  
Midwest Airlines Inc.  
Mississippi Airways  
Montmagny Air Service Inc.  
Morningstar Air Express Inc.  
Nakina Outpost Camps & Air Service Ltd.  
Northern Air Charter (P.R.) Inc.  
Northern Thunderbird Air Inc.  
Northway Aviation Ltd.  
Northwestern Air Lease  
Northwright Air  
Omni Air Express  
Orca Airways Ltd.

Pacific Coastal Airlines Limited  
Pakistan International  
Pascan Aviation Inc.  
Perimeter Aviation Ltd.  
Philippine Airlines Inc.  
Pinnacle Airlines  
Porter Airlines Inc.  
Provincial Airlines  
PSA Airlines  
Qatar Airways  
Royal Air Maroc  
Royal Jordanian  
Salt Spring Island Air Ltd.  
SATA Internacional  
Saudia  
SC Aviation  
Shuttle America Corp.  
Sichuan Airlines Co. Ltd.  
Sky Regional Airlines Inc.  
Sky West Airlines  
Skylink Express Inc.  
Skyservice Business Aviation Inc.  
Solairus Aviation  
Sunwest Aviation Ltd.  
Sunwing Airlines Inc.  
Swiss International Air Lines Ltd.  
Thunder Airlines Limited  
Tofino Airlines Ltd.  
Transaero Airlines  
Transwest Air  
Turkish Airlines  
United Airlines  
United Parcel Service

US Airways Inc.

Vancouver Island Air Ltd.

Wasaya Airways Limited Partnership

West Coast Air Ltd.

West Wind Aviation Limited Partnership

WestJet

WestJet Encore

## **Major Charter Services**

ACASS Canada Ltd.

ACM Air Charter

ACM Aviation

Aero Jet Services

Aeromexico

Air Alsie

Air Canada

Air Foyle

Air Rutter International

Air St Pierre

Air Transat A.T. Inc.

Airborne Inc.

All Nippon Airways

American Air Services Inc.

American Airlines

Ameristar Air Cargo Inc.

Arkefly

Atlas Air Inc.

Aviation Consultants Inc.

Aviation Starlink Inc.

Avjet Corporation

Bradley Air Services Limited

Canadian North Inc.

CanJet Airlines

Cargolux Airlines International

Cathay Pacific Airways  
Centaero Aviation Ltd.  
Chantilly Air Inc.  
Chartright Air Inc.  
China Airlines  
Cockrell Resources Inc.  
Condor Flugdienst  
Continental Airlines  
Delta Air Lines  
Enerjet  
Executive Flight Services  
Executive Fliteways Inc.  
Fast Air Ltd.  
Flair Airlines Ltd.  
Flexjet  
Flight Options  
Flightexec  
Florida Jet Service Inc.  
Florida West International Airlines  
GainJet Aviation  
Global Aviation  
Golden State Air Charter  
Gulf & Caribbean Cargo Inc.  
Independent Flight Leasing Inc.  
JAL-Japan Airlines International Co Ltd.  
Jazz Air Inc.  
JEM Air Holdings  
Jet Access Aviation  
Jet Linx Aviation  
Jet Solutions LLC  
JETEX LLC  
Jetport Inc.  
Kalitta Air LLC

Kenn Borek Air Ltd.  
Key Air  
Korean Air  
Landmark Aviation  
London Air Services Limited  
Longtail Aviation  
Lufthansa German Airlines  
Lynden Air Cargo LLC  
Miami Air International  
Mountain Air Cargo  
Neptune Aviation Services Inc.  
NetJets Europe  
Nolinor Aviation  
North Cariboo Flying Service Ltd.  
Oak Air Ltd.  
Omni Air Express  
Paradigm Air Operators Inc.  
Partner Jet Inc.  
Porter Airlines Inc.  
Priester Aviation  
Prime Jet  
Provincial Airlines  
Rectrix Aviation  
SATA Internacional  
SC Aviation  
Skycharter  
Skyservice Business Aviation Inc.  
Solairus Aviation  
Starbase Aviation  
Sun Air Jets  
Sunwest Aviation Ltd.  
Sunwing Airlines Inc.  
TAG Aviation

Taughannock Aviation

Travel Management Company Ltd.

Tulsair

Tyrolean Jet Service

United Airlines

USA Jet Airlines Inc.

VIH Execujet Ltd.

VistaJet (Austria)

VistaJet (Malta)

Volga-Dnepr Airlines LLC

Western Air Charter Inc.

WestJet

WestJet Encore

XOJET

Y2K Aviation LLC

## **Factors which may have influenced the data**

### **2016**

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, WestJet (Encore) began 3 times a day service between Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International Airport, Ontario and Boston, Massachusetts.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Mt. Pavlof, a volcano on the Alaska Peninsula, erupted with little advance notice spewing an ash cloud up to 20,000 feet (6,100 m) high and prompting aviation warnings. Flights were affected in the territories, and as far away as Regina, Saskatchewan.

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, Air Canada ceased its operations between Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International Airport and JFK International airport in New York, New York.

On April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Brussels Airlines began 5 / week service between Brussels, Belgium and Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International Airport. The route was initially scheduled to begin service on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016, but was delayed due to the terrorist attacks at Brussels Airport, Belgium on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.

WestJet (Encore) began daily service on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, between Halifax/Robert L. Stanfield International Airport, Nova Scotia and Boston.

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the Fort McMurray Airport Authority suspended commercial air traffic as a result of forest fires in the surrounding area. The airport, however, continued to operate as a key transportation infrastructure for emergency operations and the transportation of food and supplies for first responders and evacuees.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Air Canada commenced service from Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International to Jacksonville, Florida. The flights will operate two times a week.

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Air Canada commenced service between Vancouver International, British Columbia and San Jose, California. The flights will operate twice-daily.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, Air Canada's inaugural flight AC35, 787 Dreamliner service from Vancouver International arrived in Brisbane, Australia. These new flights between the two cities will begin daily service on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, Condor Airlines began weekly service from Halifax/Robert L. Stanfield International Airport, Nova Scotia to Munich, Germany.

Fort McMurray International Airport, Alberta resumed commercial air service on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The airport authority had suspended all commercial air traffic, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016, as the result of forest fires in the surrounding area.

Effective June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016, WestJet began service between Vancouver International Airport and San Diego, California. The flights will be offered three times a week.

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Air Canada launched the only year round non-stop service between Montréal/Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport, Quebec and Lyon-Saint Exupéry, France. The flights will operate five times a week during the summer and four times a week during the winter.

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016, WestJet began service between Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International Airport and Los Angeles, California. The service will operate three times each week. WestJet will be offering this route for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time which was last operated in 2008.

On July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016, NewLeaf, a new Canadian low-cost air travel company, inaugurated its first flight from John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport, Ontario to Winnipeg/James Armstrong Richardson International, Manitoba. The company is contracting flights through Kelowna-based Flair Air.

On October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Air Canada inaugurated the only non-stop service from Vancouver International Airport to Delhi, India. The airline will operate flights three times a week.

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Hawkair Aviation Services filed for bankruptcy, suspending all operations.

## **2015**

January 2015 was marked by extreme cold, heavy snow and freezing rain conditions across Canada forcing delays and flight cancellations at many airports.

Significant winter storms struck Atlantic Canada in February 2015 forcing numerous flight cancellations and delays. During the same time, eastern Ontario and southwestern Quebec recorded colder-than-normal temperatures.

Major snowstorms struck Atlantic Canada in mid-March 2015, forcing flight delays and cancellations.

In May, Air Canada expanded its international services at Vancouver International Airport, British Columbia by offering flights to Osaka, Japan. Air Canada rouge also launched a new international service from Montréal, Quebec to Venice, Italy.

Also in May, WestJet began seasonal service from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Glasgow, Scotland.

In June, Air Canada further expanded its global network with routes from Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International, Ontario to Amsterdam, Netherlands and from Montréal to Mexico City, Mexico. Also, Air Canada Rouge began a new non-stop daily seasonal service from Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International Airport to Abbotsford, British Columbia.

In July, WestJet Encore launched new daily non-stop flights from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Deer Lake and Gander, both in Newfoundland and Labrador, and to Sydney, Nova Scotia. The airline also launched a new daily non-stop service between Moncton, New Brunswick, and Ottawa, Ontario.

In November, Air Canada launched non-stop services from Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International Airport to Delhi, India and to Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

In December, Aeromexico launched a daily non-stop service between Vancouver and Mexico City, Mexico.

In late December, a major snowstorm hit central and eastern Canada causing delays and cancellations in southern Ontario and western Quebec, including Toronto, Ottawa, and Montréal airports.