COVID-19 Wider economic impact from air transport collapse

Brian Pearce Chief Economist

7th April 2020



Worldwide flights were 70% lower at the start of Q2 Further decline possible as restrictions rise in a number of regions





Source: IATA Economics using data from FlightRadar24

We are forecasting a 70%+ y-o-y fall in RPKs in Q2 Revenue shock similar as lower passenger yields offset by cargo





Source: IATA Economics https://www.iata.org/en/iata-repository/publications/economic-reports/covid-19-cash-burn-analysis/

Cash burn may be over \$60 billion in Q2 Some costs cannot be avoided and ticket refunds also burning cash



Source: IATA Economics https://www.iata.org/en/iata-repository/publications/economic-reports/covid-19-cash-burn-analysis/

Many airlines running out of cash Situation at start of this year - median airline only 2 months cash



*Latest available 12 months cumulative revenues Africa, Latin America and the Middle East might not be representative due to small sample size.



Source: IATA Economics using the Airline Analyst https://www.iata.org/en/iata-repository/publications/economic-reports/covid-19-airlines-liquidity-crisis/

Connecting cities by air will be critical for the recovery 35% of international trade, supply chains, investment, tourism





Source: IATA Economics using data from FlightRadar24, w/c March 25, 2019

Connecting cities by air will be critical for the recovery 35% of international trade, supply chains, investment, tourism



Source: IATA Economics using data from FlightRadar24, w/c March 30, 2020

Advanced economies depend on supply chains Rapid air transport links critical for functioning of modern businesses





Source: IATA Economics using an image from wearemoblans.com

Emerging economies often depend on inbound tourism The spending and investment driven by tourism industry can be critical



Source: IATA Economics using data from World Travel and Tourism Council, 2019

The consequences are severe for the wider economy Not just airlines, also 25 million jobs at risk throughout economies



Jobs supported by air transport at risk due to COVID-19

impact assessment of a 38% decline in RPKs



Contacts

economics@iata.org www.iata.org/economics



