

PRESS RELEASE

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Asia Pacific Airlines June 2026 Traffic Results

Passenger demand softened while air cargo markets remained resilient

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – Preliminary June 2026 traffic figures released today by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) showed a softening in international passenger demand. Weaker traffic in some regional markets reflected capacity reductions and higher airfares following the escalation in fuel prices, even as travel approached the peak mid-year season.

Overall, Asia Pacific airlines carried an aggregate total of 30.5 million international passengers in June, representing a 1.1% decline compared to the same month last year. However, demand in revenue passenger kilometres (RPK) rose by 1.1% year-on-year, underscoring continued resilience in longer-haul travel. Growth in demand outpaced a marginal 0.3% expansion in available seat capacity, resulting in a 0.7 percentage point increase in the average international passenger load factor to 82.6% for the month.

Meanwhile, international air cargo demand remained firm in June, supported in part by robust AI-related semiconductor and hardware shipments. For the month, demand, as measured in freight tonne kilometres (FTK), increased by 3.2% year-on-year, while offered freight capacity edged 0.2% higher, resulting in a 1.8 percentage point increase in the average international freight load factor to 62.6%.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Wong Hong, Director General of AAPA, said, "Passenger traffic moderated in June as higher airfares and capacity adjustments in some regional markets weighed on demand. Even so, international travel has continued to hold up well, with Asia Pacific airlines carrying 192.5 million international passengers during the first half of 2026, 3.2% more than in the corresponding period last year."

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“Meanwhile, international air cargo markets continued to perform well, with demand growing by 7.0% in the first half of the year, supported by continued demand for AI-related semiconductor shipments and other high-value, time-sensitive goods amid evolving trade dynamics.”

Looking ahead, Mr. Wong Hong said, “Airlines continue to face challenging operating conditions, with persistent uncertainty surrounding the Middle East conflict contributing to fuel price volatility and continued pressure on operating costs. These headwinds, together with more moderate business confidence and heightened geopolitical and trade policy uncertainty, may temper growth in travel and air cargo markets in the coming months. Against this backdrop, carriers remain focused on maintaining network flexibility, exercising capacity discipline, and enhancing operational efficiency in response to evolving demand patterns.”

TRAFFIC UPDATE – PRELIMINARY

International Scheduled Services of Asia Pacific Airlines

International	Jun-26	Jun-25	% Change	Jan-Jun 2026	Jan-Jun 2025	% Change
Passengers (Thousand)	30,459	30,786	- 1.1%	192,490	186,431	+ 3.2%
RPK (Million)	111,346	110,143	+ 1.1%	701,837	666,627	+ 5.3%
ASK (Million)	134,868	134,492	+ 0.3%	836,948	811,831	+ 3.1%
Passenger Load Factor	82.6%	81.9%	+ 0.7 pp	83.9%	82.1%	+ 1.8 pp
FTK (Million)	6,413	6,214	+ 3.2%	37,484	35,026	+ 7.0%
FATK (Million)	10,244	10,220	+ 0.2%	62,934	59,596	+ 5.6%
Freight Load Factor	62.6%	60.8%	+ 1.8 pp	59.6%	58.8%	+ 0.8 pp

Effective September 2025, the dataset comprises aggregated traffic data from the following 36 Asia Pacific based carriers: 5J, 6E, 7C, 9C, AI, AK, BI, BR, CA, CI, CK, CX, CZ, D7, GA, HO, HU, IX, JL, JQ, KC, KE, KZ, MH, MU, NH, NZ, PG, PR, QF, SG, SQ, TG, TR, VA and VN.

- Previous year data adjusted for comparison purposes
- RPK = revenue passenger kilometres
- ASK = available seat kilometres
- FTK = freight tonne kilometres
- FATK = available freight tonne kilometres
- All figures, including estimates for missing data, are provisional

Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA)

The AAPA is the trade association for scheduled international airlines based in the Asia Pacific region. The AAPA permanent secretariat is headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with international representation in Brussels and Washington, D.C. Collectively, the region's airlines represent over one-third of global passenger and air cargo traffic, and thus play a leading role in the ongoing development of global aviation.

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