

## PRESS RELEASE

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April 2024 / Traffic / Preliminary

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### **Asia Pacific Airlines April 2024 Traffic Results** *Steady growth in air passenger and cargo markets*

**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** – Preliminary April 2024 traffic figures released today by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) underscored strong demand for international passenger travel, with both business and leisure markets continuing to enjoy robust growth.

Overall, a combined total of 28.0 million international passengers flew with the region’s carriers in April, representing a 32.0% increase compared to the same month last year. Traffic averaged 87.3% of 2019 volumes. Demand in revenue passenger kilometres (RPK) rose by 33.7% year-on-year, showing growth notably on longer haul routes. Available seat capacity grew by 30.4%, leading to a 2.1 percentage point increase in the average international passenger load factor to 81.6%.

Higher demand for consumer and intermediate goods, contributed to the ongoing positive momentum in air cargo markets. For the region’s carriers, international air cargo demand, as measured in freight tonne kilometres (FTK), recorded a 13.7% year-on-year growth in April, while offered freight capacity expanded by 14.4%, leading to a marginal 0.4 percentage point decline in the average international freight load factor to 59.9%.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Subhas Menon, AAPA Director General said, “Improving economic sentiment, coupled with high demand on major routes connecting Asia and other regions, including Europe and Southwest Pacific, drove growth in long haul travel markets, while travel demand within the region remained buoyant, underpinned by the easing of visa policies and resilient expansion in the region’s economies. Overall, the number of international passengers carried rose by 51% to a total of 117 million for the first four months of the year.”

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Mr. Menon added, “During the same period, Asia Pacific airlines also posted an encouraging 15% year-on-year increase in air cargo traffic volumes, with the pick-up in global demand supporting export activity from major manufacturing hubs located in the region, in particular, China.”

Looking ahead, Mr. Menon said, “Positive business and consumer confidence levels are likely to support continued growth in air passenger and cargo markets in the coming months. Nevertheless, supply chain constraints and higher operating costs remain a concern, while geopolitical tensions continue to cloud the outlook of the industry. Against this background, the region’s carriers remain focused on improving operational efficiency and growing sustainably, while upkeeping safety standards.”

**TRAFFIC UPDATE – PRELIMINARY**

*International Scheduled Services of Asia Pacific Airlines*

<b>International</b>	<b>Apr-24</b>	<b>Apr-23</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Jan-Apr 2024</b>	<b>Jan-Apr 2023</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Passengers (Thousand)	28,012	21,214	+ 32.0%	116,567	77,268	+ 50.9%
RPK (Million)	99,777	74,608	+ 33.7%	399,483	277,787	+ 43.8%
ASK (Million)	122,327	93,787	+ 30.4%	490,564	343,020	+ 43.0%
Passenger Load Factor	81.6%	79.5%	+ 2.1 pp	81.4%	81.0%	+ 0.4 pp
FTK (Million)	5,819	5,117	+ 13.7%	22,829	19,774	+ 15.4%
FATK (Million)	9,708	8,488	+ 14.4%	38,378	32,229	+ 19.1%
Freight Load Factor	59.9%	60.3%	- 0.4 pp	59.5%	61.4%	- 1.9 pp

Effective January 2020, the dataset comprises aggregated traffic data from the following 40 Asia Pacific based carriers: 3K, 5J, 6E, 7C, 9C, 9W, AI, AK, BI, BR, CA, CI, CK, CX, CZ, D7, GA, HO, HU, IX, JL, JQ, KA, KC, KE, KZ, MH, MU, NH, NZ, OZ, 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

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**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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