

CANSO ATM Traffic Analysis Report

27 August 2020

Growth in global traffic levels off in latter half of August

- The average number of daily flights for the weeks of 9 August and 16 August 2020 were 74,200 and 73,500 respectively. This represents a decline of 37% from the comparable global daily average in August 2019 when over 117,400 flights operated daily.
- Average daily flight hours for the weeks of 9 August and 16 August 2020 were 150,900 and 152,700 respectively. That remains 36% less than average global daily flight hours the year prior, when over 236,700 flight hours occurred daily.

Continued low flight hours reflect reduced international traffic

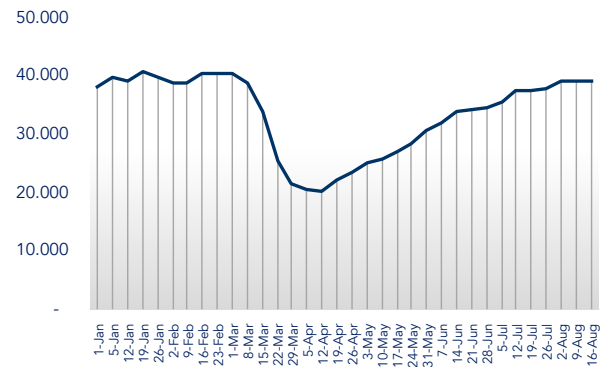
The number of aircraft operating daily is now at 94% of August 2019 levels and is approaching the number that was regularly operating at the beginning of 2020. And yet the flight activity by those aircraft has changed materially with significant impacts seen in global flight numbers and global flight hours.

Global average daily flight numbers shrank slightly in the latter half of August, to an average of 73,500 flights daily, a net reduction of 700 daily flights over the week prior. This is the first contraction in daily flight numbers following eighteen consecutive weeks of growth, a period in which daily flight numbers grew by 135%.

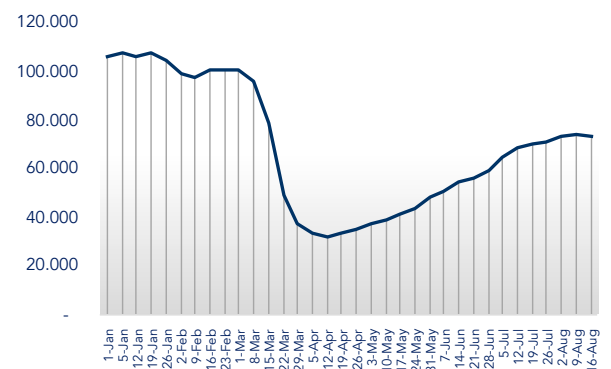
Global daily flight hours have continued to experience small week over week increases and are currently 117% higher than they were in mid-April, with 82,500 daily flight hours added since that time.

As the summer peak in several regions begins to wind down it will be interesting to see if recovery continues in autumn, or to what extent the seasonal reduction in flight activity is felt. Global traffic volumes are regularly about 6% lower in September than in August.

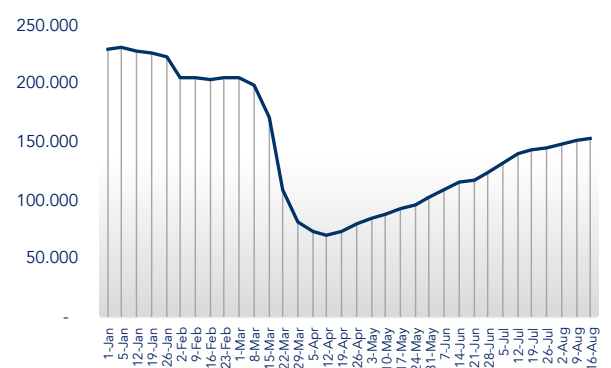
Average unique aircraft



Average global flights

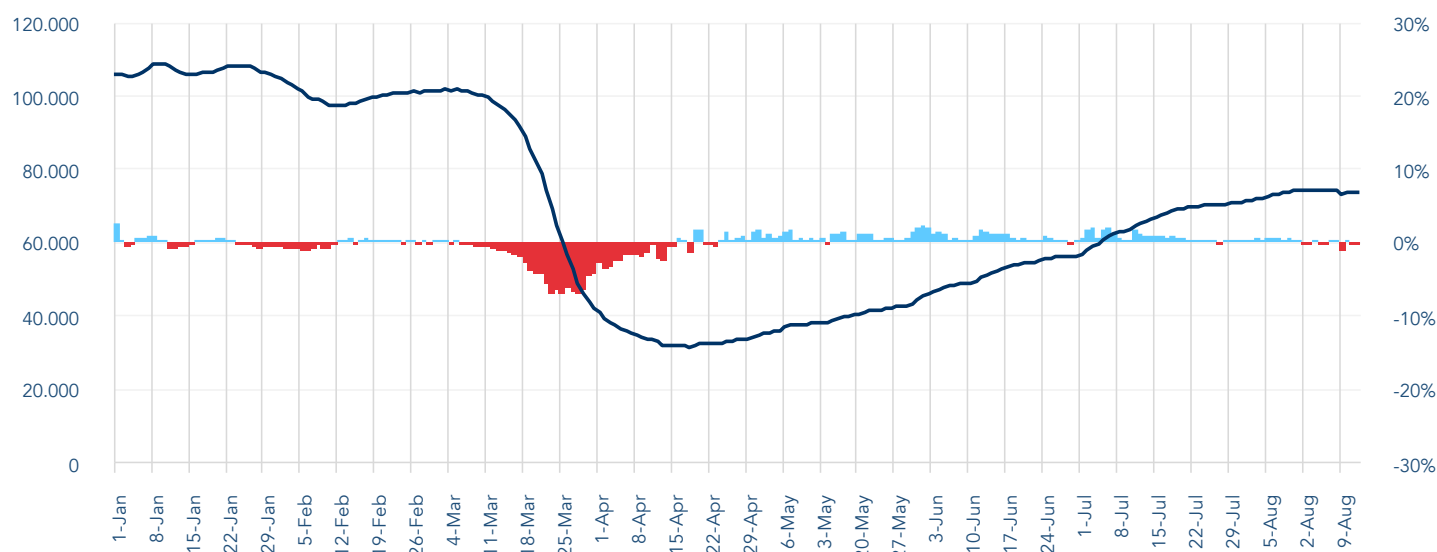


Average global flight hours



Global daily flights variation

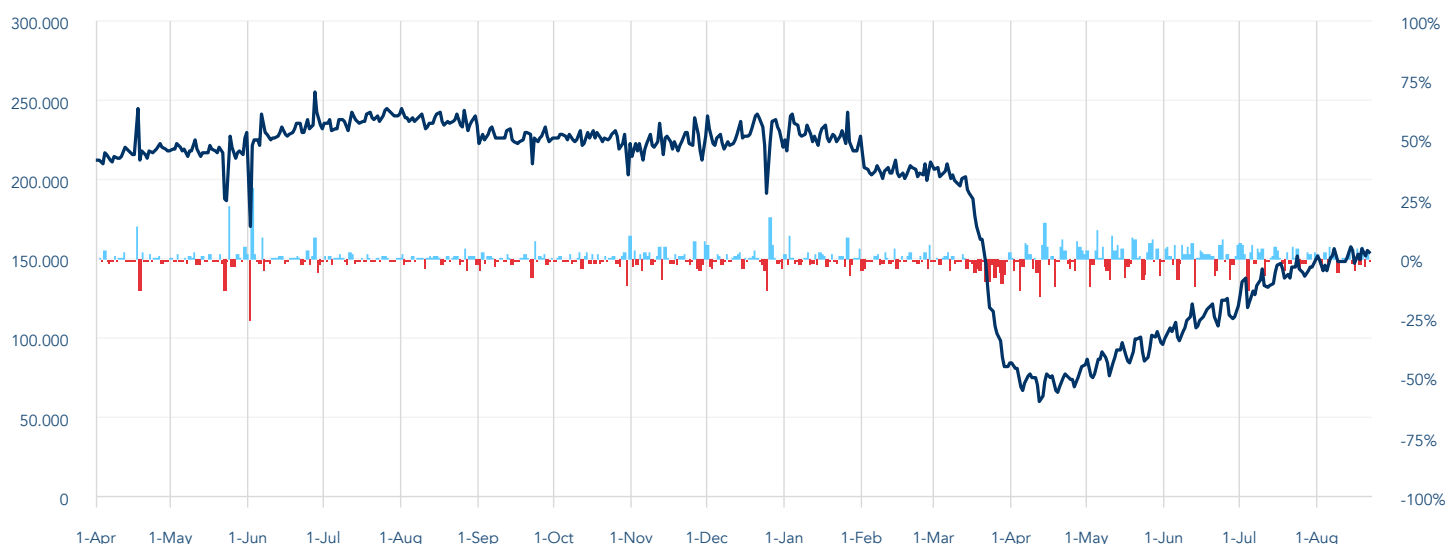
Rolling 7-day average of daily flights



The percentage daily variability rates show the beginning of a small negative trend in the latter half of August in which flight numbers dropped for 7 of 11 days. Globally this has caused a levelling in the trend of traffic growth following continued steady increases throughout May, June and July. The global trend however masks an increasingly variable recovery in specific regions which is explored more fully on the next page.

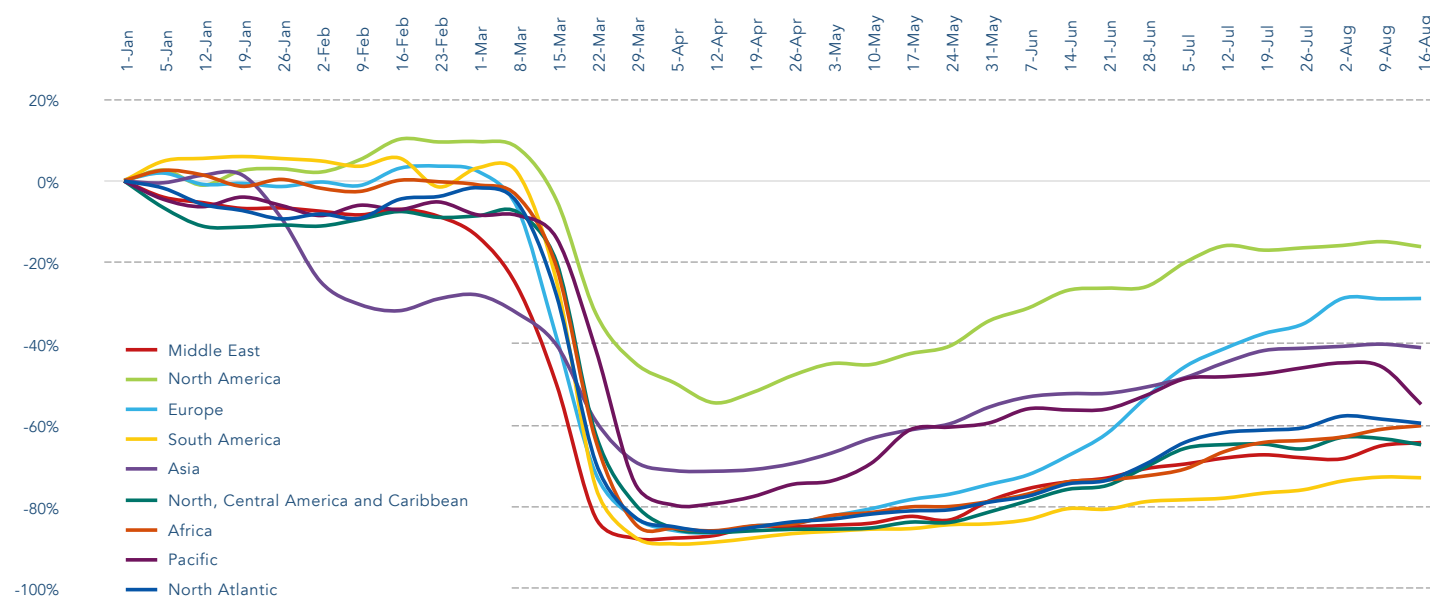
Daily flight hours

Flight hours since April 2019 with percentage of day-to-day variability



Daily flight hours, an important metric of ATM workload, reached 158,000 hours globally on 14 August 2020. That represents the highest level of daily flight hours since 20 March 2020.

Percent change in movements by region



Most regions saw some levelling of their traffic growth in the latter half of August, with several regions seeing the beginning of small declines in daily traffic averages. The steepest declines were experienced in the Pacific Region and the North Atlantic. The largest traffic increase was seen in the Middle East, which added an additional 200 daily flights on average in the past two weeks. South America remains the most significantly off of its normal volumes, with traffic down 72% from volumes at the beginning of the year.

Average daily flight hours and average daily movements by region

	Dates	Average daily flight hours	Percent change	Average daily movements	Percent change
Middle East	01 Jan 2020 16 Aug 2020	7,400 3,400	54%	6,100 2,200	64%
North America	01 Jan 2020 16 Aug 2020	67,400 59,100	12%	38,000 31,900	16%
Europe	01 Jan 2020 16 Aug 2020	44,700 32,700	27%	24,900 17,700	29%
South America	01 Jan 2020 16 Aug 2020	10,700 3,200	70%	5,800 1,600	72%
Asia	01 Jan 2020 16 Aug 2020	74,900 42,800	43%	35,000 20,700	41%
Caribbean	01 Jan 2020 16 Aug 2020	9,100 3,600	60%	6,400 2,300	64%
Africa	01 Jan 2020 16 Aug 2020	4,200 2,600	38%	1,800 700	61%
North Atlantic	01 Jan 2020 16 Aug 2020	6,800 2,400	65%	2,300 900	61%

About the ATM report

The ATM Report is issued bi-weekly by CANSO as an analysis of metrics directly relevant to the ATM industry. The report uses high fidelity global space-based ADS-B air traffic data provided via a partnership with Aireon. The data includes surveillance of all 1090Mhz ADS-B Equipped aircraft. While some non-ADS-B equipped aircraft may not be included, the data is appropriate for the monitoring of global trends in traffic levels.

About CANSO



The Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) is the global voice of air traffic management. CANSO Members support almost 90 percent of world air traffic and represent leading providers of technology and services to the industry. Members share information and develop new policies, with the ultimate aim of improving air navigation services. For more, visit canso.org.

About Aireon



Aireon is harnessing next-generation aviation surveillance technologies that were formerly ground-based and, for the first time ever, is extending their reach globally through the use of satellite technology to significantly improve efficiency, enhance safety, reduce emissions and provide cost savings benefits to all stakeholders. For more information, please visit aireon.com.

