

# CANSO ATM TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

AUGUST 2021

## August traffic numbers show that COVID is not done with us yet

- There were 2.86 million flights operated globally in August 2021. This represents 81.5% of the 3.51 million flights operated in August 2019.
- August 2021 saw 5.83 million flight hours operated globally. This is 81.8% of the 7.13 million flight hours flown in August 2019.
- August global flight numbers and global flight hours are down slightly from the 84.5% of 2019 volumes that was achieved in July 2021.

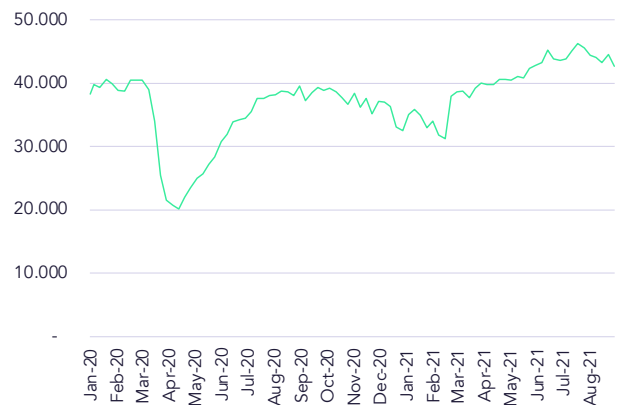
## Contraction felt in key markets

Global flights and flight hour activity shrunk slightly in August, largely as a result of falling volumes in the large aviation markets of Asia and North America offsetting continued increases in Europe.

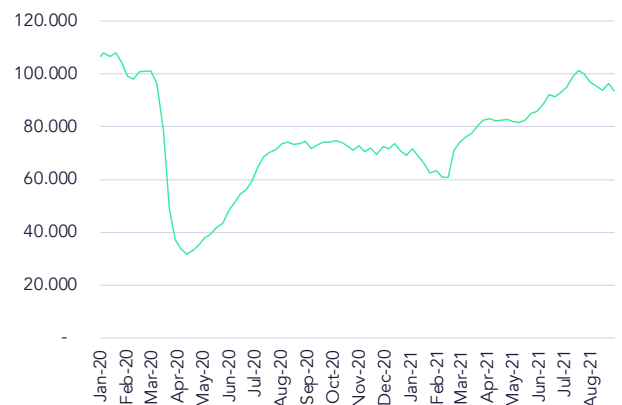
Daily average global air traffic decreased month over month, from 95,500 flights and 193,500 flight hours daily in July 2021 to an average of 92,500 flights and 188,000 flight hours daily in August.

Looking at year-over-year volumes, traffic in August 2021 was 29% higher than August 2020.

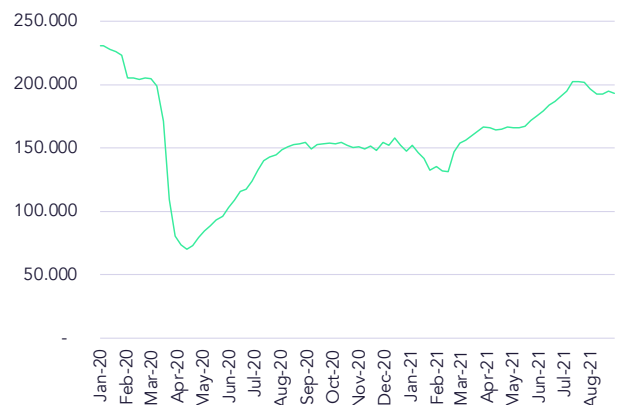
AVERAGE UNIQUE AIRCRAFT



AVERAGE GLOBAL FLIGHTS

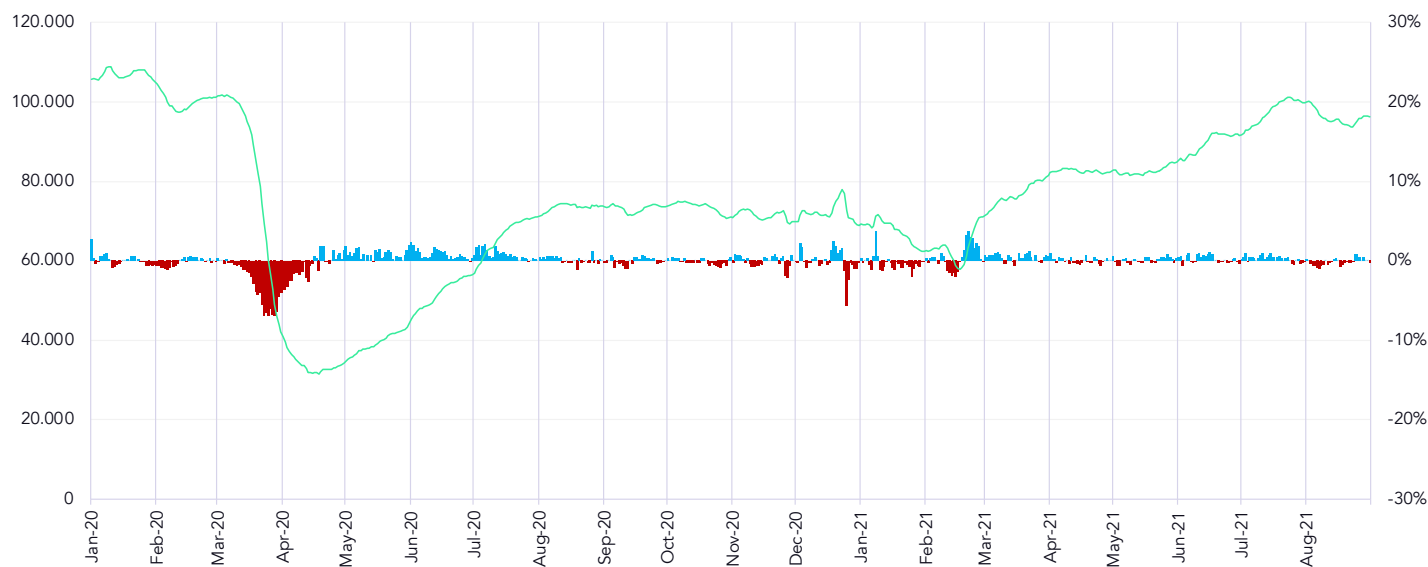


AVERAGE GLOBAL FLIGHT HOURS



# Global daily flights variation

ROLLING 7-DAY AVERAGE OF DAILY FLIGHTS



The rolling 7-day average of global daily flight volumes briefly exceeded 100,000 flights per day in late July but fell back below that mark in August 2021, ending the month just over 96,000.

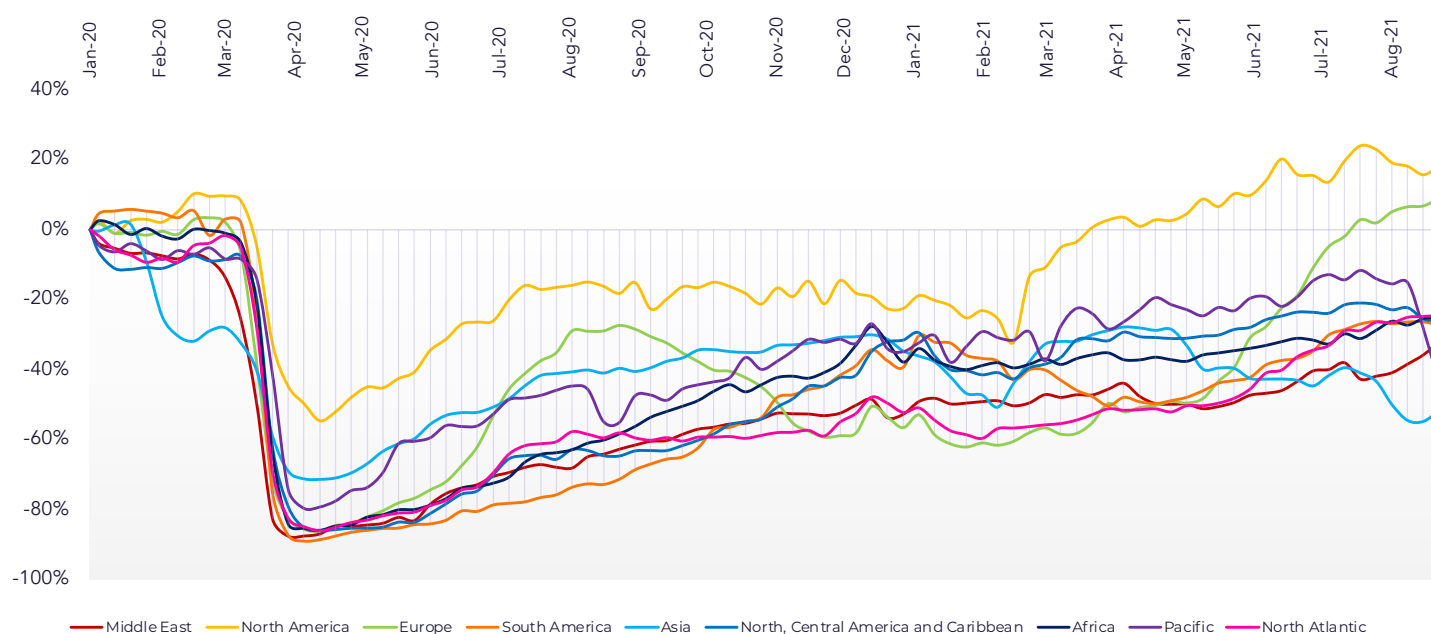
# Daily flight hours

FLIGHT HOURS SINCE APRIL 2019 WITH PERCENTAGE OF DAY-TO-DAY VARIABILITY



Global flight hours are an important metric of ATM workload. While global flight hours continue to be heavily impacted by ongoing restrictions on international travel, 23 July represents the post-pandemic high point with 211,000 flight hours operated. Daily flight hours in August 2021 ranged between 190,000 and 202,500 hours per day.

## Percent change in movements by region



Europe and the Middle East saw growth in air traffic volumes in August with the two regions adding 1,800 and 600 daily flights respectively over volumes seen at the end of July. Many other regions saw little change or noticeable declines over the period. Air traffic declined in August in Asia, the Pacific and North America. Asia shed 2,900 daily flights and 7,500 daily flight hours in August over volumes occurring in late July, in part due to the evolving pandemic situation in specific countries.

## Tracking the recovery: Flights and flight hours by region

	Dates	Average daily flight hours	Percent change	Average daily movements	Percent change
Middle East	01 Jan 2020 22 Aug 2021	7,400 6,700	-9%	6,100 4,200	-31%
North America	01 Jan 2020 22 Aug 2021	67,400 75,800	+12%	38,000 45,000	+18%
Europe	01 Jan 2020 22 Aug 2021	44,700 47,300	+6%	24,900 27,200	+9%
South America	01 Jan 2020 22 Aug 2021	10,700 7,200	-33%	5,800 4,200	-28%
Asia	01 Jan 2020 22 Aug 2021	74,900 40,900	-45%	35,000 17,000	-51%
Caribbean	01 Jan 2020 22 Aug 2021	9,100 6,800	-25%	6,400 4,700	-27%
Africa	01 Jan 2020 22 Aug 2021	4,200 3,000	-29%	1,800 1,400	-22%
North Atlantic	01 Jan 2020 22 Aug 2021	6,800 5,000	-26%	2,300 1,700	-26%

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## 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.

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## 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](https://canso.org).

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## 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](https://aireon.com).

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