# CANSO ATM TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT



**DECEMBER 2021** 

# Global air traffic ends 2021 down approximately 13% in December

- There were 2.93 million flights operated globally in December 2021. This represents 87.0% of the 3.37 million flights operated in December 2019.
- December 2021 saw 6.04 million flight hours operated globally. This is 85.5% of the 7.06 million flight hours flown in December 2019.

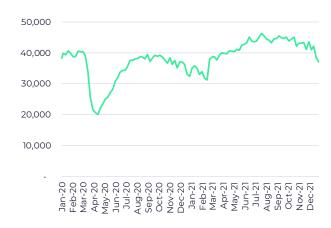
# Omicron's effect on global traffic remains like its symptoms, milder than previous variants

With numerous States increasing travel restrictions or advisories in December air traffic showed surprising resilience with year over year numbers remaining comparable to November when flights were 87.6% of 2019 and flight hours were 85.1%.

Cancellations due to weather and staff shortages due to Omicron infection did have a negative impact on flight numbers in the latter half of the month.

Service disruption as a result of staff shortages from COVID-19 remains a risk factor for all industries, including the aviation industry as we enter 2022.

## 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 ranged between 100,000 and 88,400 flights in December. The post-pandemic high remains 20 October 2021 when the 7-day average reached 102,000.

## Daily flight hours

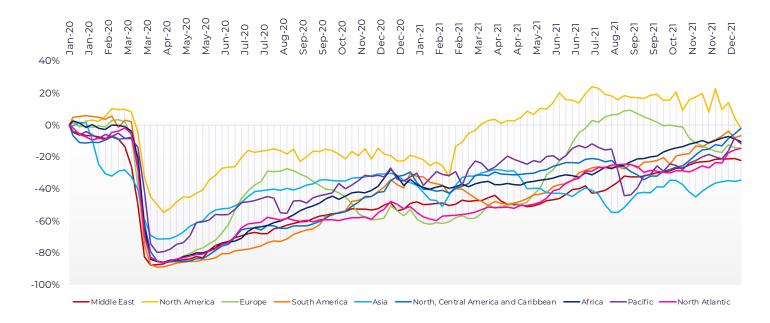
FLIGHT HOURS SINCE APRIL 2019 WITH PERCENTAGE OF DAY-TO-DAY VARIABILITY



Global flight hours are an important metric of ATM workload. Globally over 210,000 flight hours were operated on 17 December. This approaches the current post pandemic high of 23 July when 211,000 flight hours operated.

Daily flight hours in December 2021 ranged between 210,000 and 156,000 hours per day, the latter occurring on the traditionally quiet 25 December.

## Percent change in movements by region



Many regions see a normal fall back in traffic in the latter portion of December once holiday travellers have arrived at their destination. The North Atlantic region saw a substantial decline, driven in part by flight cancellations as a result of weather and staff shortages. Traffic impacts on Africa were minor with the region ending December with higher traffic levels than in the prior month. Continued steady recovery occurred in most other regions, with the Caribbean and North Atlantic showing solid month over month growth.

## 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 26 Dec 2021	7,400 7,900	+7%	6,100 4,800	-21%
North America	01 Jan 2020 26 Dec 2021	67,400 66,800	-1%	38,000 37,200	-2%
Europe	01 Jan 2020 26 Dec 2021	44,700 39,100	-13%	24,900 21,300	-14%
South America	01 Jan 2020 26 Dec 2021	10,700 9,400	-12%	5,800 5,400	-7%
Asia	01 Jan 2020 26 Dec 2021	74,900 52,400	-30%	35,000 22,900	-35%
Caribbean	01 Jan 2020 26 Dec 2021	9,100 8,900	-2%	6,400 6,300	-2%
Africa	01 Jan 2020 26 Dec 2021	4,200 3,600	-14%	1,800 1,700	-6%
North Atlantic	01 Jan 2020 26 Dec 2021	6,800 5,700	-16%	2,300 1,900	-17%

### **ABOUT THE ATM REPORT**

The ATM Report is issued monthly 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 <u>canso.org</u>.



#### **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.

