

CANSO ATM TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

MAY 2022

Global air traffic flight volumes exceed 2019 levels for the first time in May

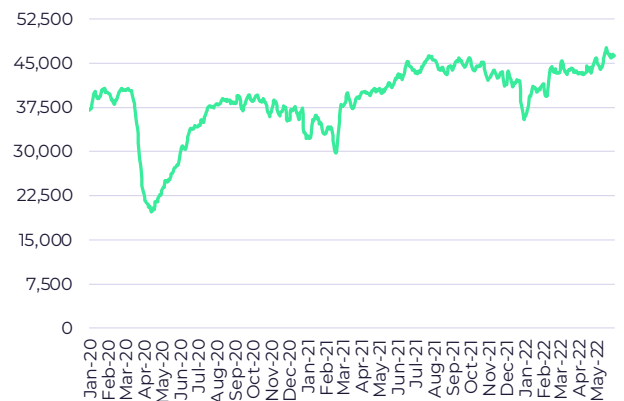
- There were 3.41 million flights operated globally in May 2022. This represents a 33 per cent increase on the number of flights in May 2021 and a 4 per cent increase on the 3.28 million flights operated in May 2019. This makes May the first month in which traffic volumes have exceeded the corresponding month in 2019.
- May 2022 saw 6.41 million flight hours operated globally. This is a 23 per cent increase on the number of flight hours in May 2021 and is 5 per cent lower than the 6.73 million flight hours flown in May 2019.

Flight volumes recovering ahead of other key industry metrics

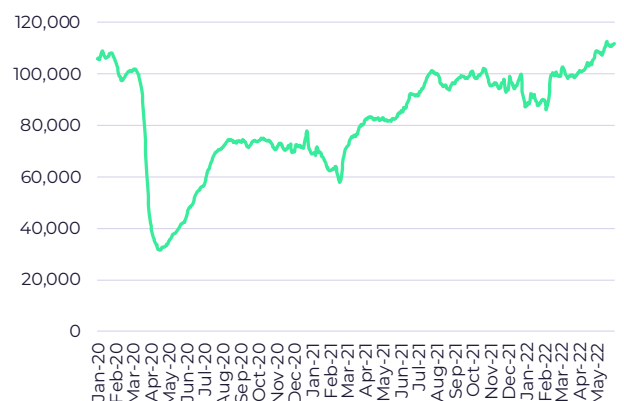
It was long suspected that air traffic volumes, as measured by number of flights, would reach 2019 levels long before other industry metrics, such as revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs), achieved that milestone. A combination of reduced load factors, down gauging of aircraft type and increased short haul volumes are contributing to slightly lower recovery rates in RPKs and flight hours operated.

Recovery in the number of flights operated is an important milestone and demonstrates the strength of demand in the absence of flight restrictions. It also demonstrates that the skies are likely to be busy this summer, even though passenger numbers continue to be off pre-pandemic levels.

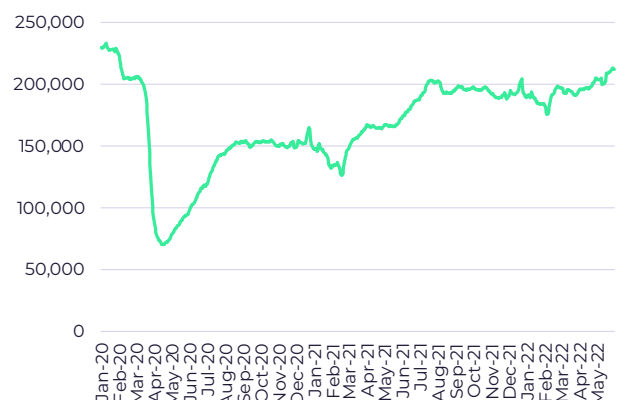
AVERAGE UNIQUE AIRCRAFT



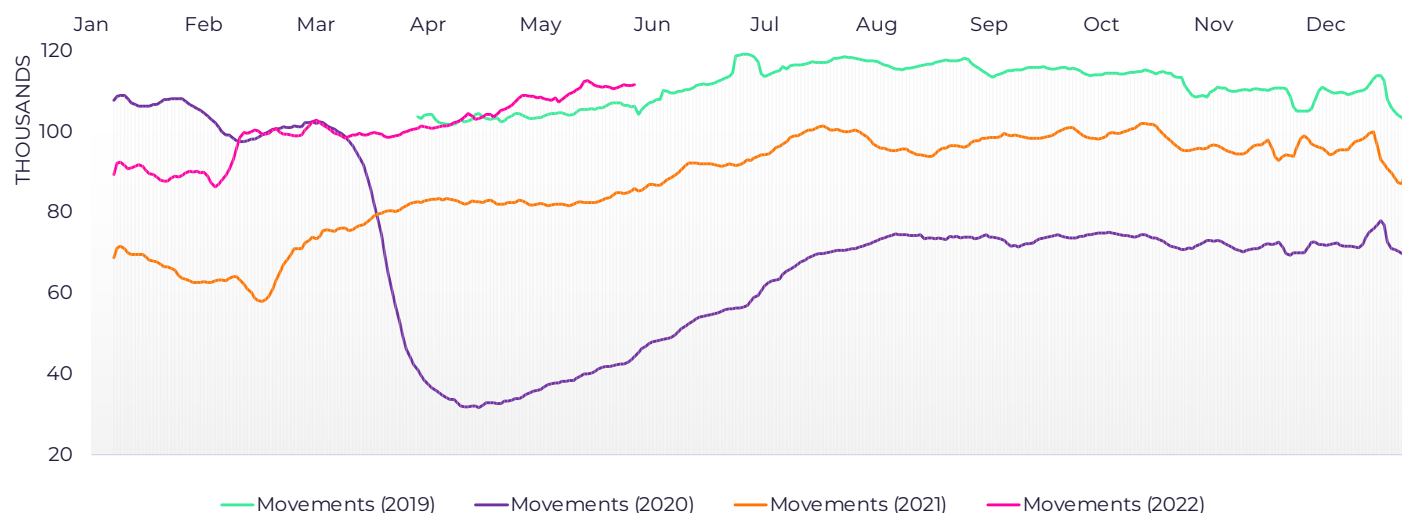
AVERAGE GLOBAL FLIGHTS



AVERAGE GLOBAL FLIGHT HOURS

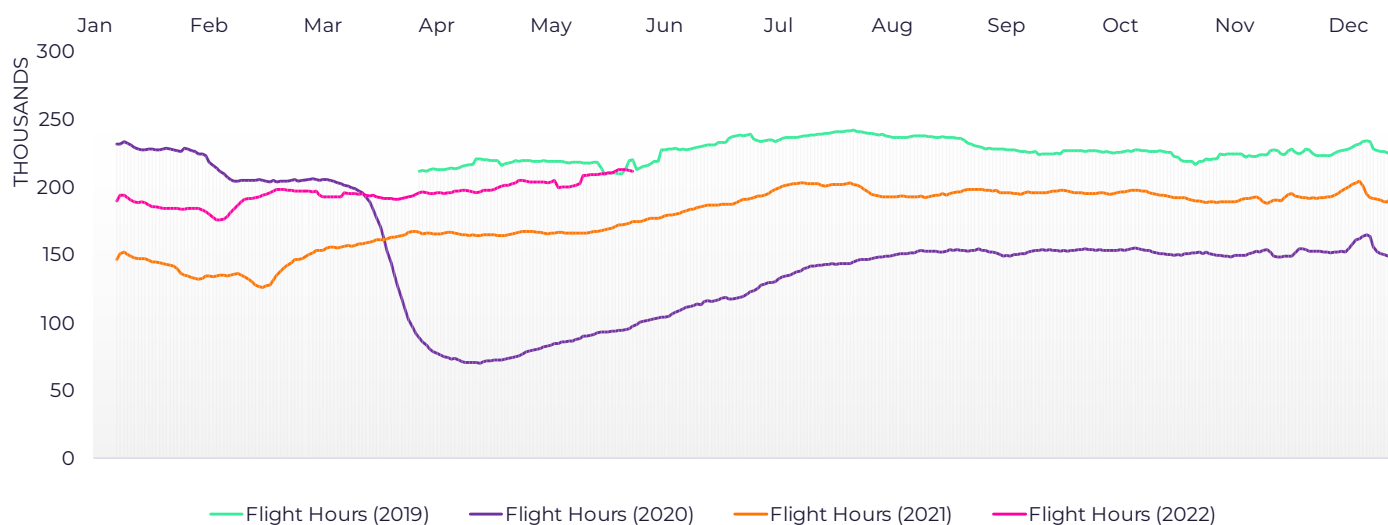


Global daily flights variation



The rolling 7-day average of global daily flight volumes showed a steady increase in May, ranging between 107,300 and 112,500 flights. May 18th represents a new recovery high with the 7-day average reaching 112,500 flights.

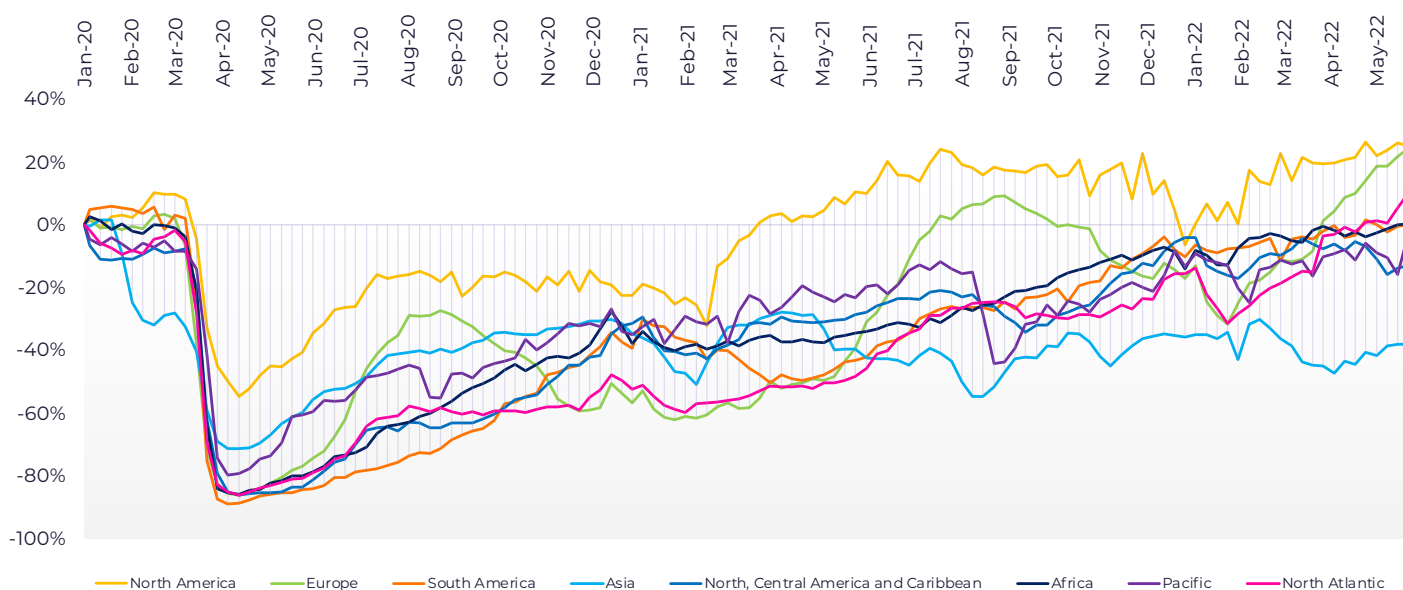
Daily Flight Hours



Global flight hours are an important metric of ATM workload. The previous post pandemic high, which occurred on April 29 2022, was replaced on May 27th when 223,000 flight hours operated.

Daily flight hours in May 2022 ranged between 165,000 and 223,000 hours per day.

Percent change in movements by region



Air traffic in Asia showed little meaningful recovery in May, with traffic volumes remaining at minus 38 per cent of pre-pandemic values. Air traffic in Europe, and North America remain strong, showing signs of a more normal seasonal peak, with the North Atlantic showing its fourth month of steady growth. Africa continues to show good recovery in flight numbers, even as overall flight hours continue to lag, while the opposite issue seems to be playing out in the Middle East where recovery in flight hours is outpacing flight numbers.

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 Mar 2022	7,400 8,000	+8%	6,100 5,100	-16%
North America	01 Jan 2020 22 Mar 2022	67,400 78,400	+16%	38,000 47,600	+25%
Europe	01 Jan 2020 22 Mar 2022	44,700 47,700	+7%	24,900 31,000	+24%
South America	01 Jan 2020 22 Mar 2022	10,700 9,700	-9%	5,800 5,800	0%
Asia	01 Jan 2020 22 Mar 2022	74,900 49,800	-34%	35,000 21,700	-38%
Caribbean	01 Jan 2020 22 Mar 2022	9,100 8,000	-12%	6,400 5,500	-14%
Africa	01 Jan 2020 22 Mar 2022	4,200 3,900	-7%	1,800 1,900	+6%
North Atlantic	01 Jan 2020 22 Mar 2022	6,800 7,100	+4%	2,300 2,500	+9%

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 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.

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