

Aviation

Civil Aviation, Annual Operating and Financial Statistics, Canadian Air Carriers, Levels I to III

2011



Highlights

- In 2011, Canadian Level I to III air carriers reported 63.0 million enplaned passengers, up 6.8% from 2010. The domestic sector rose 4.1% in 2011 to 34.5 million passengers, while the international sector (including Canada-United States) increased 10.3% to 28.5 million passengers. The scheduled passenger counts reached 57.2 million and the charter passenger counts, 5.8 million. In terms of passenger-kilometres flown, these carriers recorded 147.5 billion passenger-kilometres in their scheduled and charter operations in 2011, up 8.2% from the previous year. The international sector (+10.9%) advanced at a much faster pace than the domestic sector (+2.5%).
- After reporting a net income of \$477.4 million in 2010, Canadian Level I to III air carriers reported a net income of \$144.8 million in 2011. In 2011, total operating revenues generated by the Canadian Level I to III air carriers amounted to \$19.1 billion, up 9.9% (or +\$1.7 billion) from 2010. Total operating expenses increased to \$18.5 billion in 2011, up 12.1% (or +\$2.0 billion) from the previous year.
- In 2011, 96.9 cents of each operating revenue dollar were used to cover operating expenses. Aircraft operations absorbed the largest portion of each operating revenue dollar, at 52.2 cents, followed by general services and administration (28.6 cents) and maintenance (10.3 cents).
- Total assets of the Canadian Level I to III air carriers reached \$17.0 billion in 2011, up 0.4% compared to 2010.
- The aviation industry's earning power is reflected in the profitability ratios of profit margin, return on investment and return on assets. In 2011, the profit margin was 0.8% compared to 2.8% in 2010. This shows that every dollar of service sold, in 2011, earned 0.8 cents of profit for the Canadian Level I to III air carriers. The decrease in profit in 2011 compared to 2010 reflected the decrease in operating income and the increase in net non-operating expenses. Operating income fell as the rise in operating expenses (aircraft operations—fuel cost and wages and salaries—and general services and administration) offset the gain in operating revenues. Both return on assets and return on investment also showed declining profitability within the aviation industry in 2011. The rate of return on assets went from 2.8% in 2010 to 0.9% in 2011, while the rate of return on investment declined from 5.5% in 2010 to 3.2% in 2011.
- Total employment in the aviation industry grew 0.8% to 53,123, while total wages and salaries went up 8.7% to \$3.4 billion. In 2011, wages and salaries accounted for 18.4% of the operating expenses, down from 19.0% in 2010.
- Canadian Level I to III air carriers consumed 6.3 billion litres of fuel (turbine fuel and gasoline) in 2011 and spent \$5.6 billion acquiring the fuel. In 2011, fuel costs accounted for 30.2% of the operating expenses, up from 25.8% in 2010.

Statistical Tables

Table 1
Operating statistics, 2010 and 2011

	Levels I and II			Level III		Levels I to III			
	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011
	thousands		percent	thousands		percent	thousands		percent
All services									
Number of carriers included ¹	28	25	-10.7	74	76	2.7	102	101	-1.0
Passengers	57,574	61,307	6.5	1,377	1,669	21.2	58,951	62,976	6.8
Goods carried (kilograms)	711,967	667,759	-6.2	78,251	69,295	-11.4	790,219	737,054	-6.7
Passenger-kilometres	135,244,549	146,056,666	8.0	1,041,940	1,427,984	37.1	136,286,488	147,484,650	8.2
Passenger tonne-kilometres	13,524,455	14,605,667	8.0	104,194	142,798	37.1	13,628,649	14,748,465	8.2
Goods tonne-kilometres	2,050,495	2,030,420	-1.0	34,729	28,750	-17.2	2,085,224	2,059,170	-1.2
Total tonne-kilometres	15,574,950	16,636,086	6.8	138,923	171,549	23.5	15,713,873	16,807,635	7.0
Hours flown	2,177	2,276	4.6	394	434	10.1	2,571	2,710	5.4
Scheduled services									
Passengers	53,147	56,817	6.9	363	360	-0.8	53,510	57,177	6.9
Goods carried (kilograms)	384,102	376,596	-2.0	15,768	15,671	-0.6	399,870	392,267	-1.9
Passenger-kilometres	122,911,535	133,356,588	8.5	141,886	140,037	-1.3	123,053,421	133,496,625	8.5
Passenger tonne-kilometres	12,291,154	13,335,659	8.5	14,189	14,004	-1.3	12,305,342	13,349,663	8.5
Goods tonne-kilometres	1,666,701	1,648,899	-1.1	5,958	5,475	-8.1	1,672,659	1,654,374	-1.1
Total tonne-kilometres	13,957,855	14,984,558	7.4	20,146	19,478	-3.3	13,978,001	15,004,037	7.3
Hours flown	1,935	2,061	6.5	65	73	13.0	1,999	2,134	6.7
Charter services									
Passengers	4,426	4,490	1.4	1,014	1,309	29.0	5,441	5,799	6.6
Goods carried (kilograms)	327,865	291,162	-11.2	62,484	53,624	-14.2	390,349	344,787	-11.7
Passenger-kilometres	12,333,013	12,700,078	3.0	900,054	1,287,947	43.1	13,233,067	13,988,025	5.7
Passenger tonne-kilometres	1,233,301	1,270,008	3.0	90,005	128,795	43.1	1,323,307	1,398,803	5.7
Goods tonne-kilometres	383,794	381,520	-0.6	28,771	23,276	-19.1	412,565	404,796	-1.9
Total tonne-kilometres	1,617,095	1,651,528	2.1	118,777	152,071	28.0	1,735,872	1,803,599	3.9
Hours flown	242	215	-11.1	329	361	9.5	571	576	0.8

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level III air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that (a) is not a level I air carrier or level II air carrier; and (b) in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, realized gross revenues of at least 2 million dollars for the provision of air services for which the air carrier held a licence.

Table 2
Selected operating statistics, by sector, 2011

	Domestic		International	
	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011
	thousands	percent	thousands	percent
All services				
Passengers	34,454	4.1	28,522	10.3
Passenger-kilometres	44,957,598	2.5	102,527,053	10.9

Table 3
Income statement, 2010 and 2011¹

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011
	thousands of dollars		percent	thousands of dollars		percent	thousands of dollars		percent
Operating revenues									
Scheduled services	14,238,962	15,633,725	9.8	156,677	238,688	52.3	14,395,638	15,872,413	10.3
Passengers	13,509,565	14,863,390	10.0	136,559	197,082	44.3	13,646,124	15,060,472	10.4
Goods	729,396	770,334	5.6	20,118	41,606	106.8	749,514	811,940	8.3
Charter services	1,403,639	1,497,723	6.7	715,664	771,540	7.8	2,119,303	2,269,263	7.1
Passengers	1,083,362	1,178,148	8.7	626,898	682,400	8.9	1,710,259	1,860,549	8.8
Goods	320,277	319,574	-0.2	88,767	89,139	0.4	409,044	408,714	-0.1
Other flying services	7,240	42,546	487.6	23,641	39,318	66.3	30,881	81,864	165.1
Subsidies ²	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Net incidental air transport related revenue	695,487	718,665	3.3	110,715	124,694	12.6	806,203	843,359	4.6
Total operating revenues	16,345,328	17,892,658	9.5	1,006,698	1,174,240	16.6	17,352,025	19,066,898	9.9
Operating expenses									
Maintenance, ground property and equipment	92,377	120,900	30.9	38,602	54,227	40.5	130,979	175,128	33.7
Aircraft operations	7,875,364	9,308,170	18.2	554,544	642,002	15.8	8,429,908	9,950,172	18.0
Maintenance, flight equipment	1,615,011	1,605,088	-0.6	167,938	180,017	7.2	1,782,949	1,785,105	0.1
General services and administration	5,077,007	5,299,160	4.4	144,970	159,607	10.1	5,221,977	5,458,767	4.5
Depreciation	855,146	1,046,607	22.4	63,082	66,281	5.1	918,228	1,112,888	21.2
Total operating expenses	15,514,904	17,379,925	12.0	969,136	1,102,134	13.7	16,484,040	18,482,060	12.1
Operating income (loss)	830,424	512,733	-38.3	37,562	72,106	92.0	867,985	584,838	-32.6
Non-operating income (expenses)									
Capital gains (losses), net	-15,795	8,799	...	4,945	6,614	33.7	-10,850	15,413	...
Interest and discount income	31,948	154,908	384.9	14,427	2,258	-84.3	46,376	157,166	238.9
Interest expenses	429,700	380,248	-11.5	18,215	17,818	-2.2	447,915	398,066	-11.1
Miscellaneous non-operating income (expenses), net	79,282	-154,582	...	-14,922	10,569	...	64,359	-144,013	...
Total non-operating income (expenses), net	-334,266	-371,123	11.0	-13,765	1,622	...	-348,030	-369,500	6.2
Income (loss) before provision for income taxes	496,158	141,610	-71.5	23,797	73,728	209.8	519,955	215,338	-58.6
Provision for income taxes (tax refund)	34,285	60,423	76.2	8,278	10,090	21.9	42,563	70,513	65.7
Net income (loss)	461,873	81,187	-82.4	15,519	63,638	310.1	477,392	144,825	-69.7

1. Canadian Level IV air carriers reported \$1.2 billion in revenue in 2011, up from \$1.1 billion in 2010. In 2011, the revenues for helicopters and for fixed-wing aircraft totalled \$892.2 million and \$262.2 million, respectively.

2. For reasons of confidentiality "subsidies" are included with "net incidental air transport related revenue".

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level III air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that (a) is not a level I air carrier or level II air carrier; and (b) in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, realized gross revenues of at least 2 million dollars for the provision of air services for which the air carrier held a licence.

Level IV air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that (a) is not a level I air carrier, level II air carrier or level III air carrier; and (b) in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, realized gross revenues of less than 2 million dollars for the provision of air services for which the air carrier held a licence.

Table 4
Balance sheet, 2010 and 2011

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011
	thousands of dollars		percent	thousands of dollars		percent	thousands of dollars		percent
Assets									
Current assets	5,213,049	5,419,999	4.0	291,219	337,163	15.8	5,504,268	5,757,162	4.6
Investments and special funds	1,730,628	1,612,667	-6.8	37,649	57,762	53.4	1,768,277	1,670,429	-5.5
Operating property and equipment	11,773,224	11,649,237	-1.1	832,328	894,019	7.4	12,605,551	12,543,256	-0.5
Less: accumulated depreciation	3,839,341	3,981,947	3.7	312,856	342,109	9.4	4,152,197	4,324,056	4.1
Non-operating property and equipment	153,557	88,972	-42.1	54,315	72,523	33.5	207,872	161,495	-22.3
Less: accumulated depreciation	109,571	11,876	-89.2	25,259	33,032	30.8	134,829	44,908	-66.7
Deferred charges	1,119,467	1,217,719	8.8	7,276	5,671	-22.1	1,126,742	1,223,390	8.6
Total assets	16,041,013	15,994,770	-0.3	884,672	991,997	12.1	16,925,684	16,986,768	0.4
Liabilities and capital									
Current liabilities	4,277,052	4,873,158	13.9	204,083	254,044	24.5	4,481,135	5,127,202	14.4
Advances from associated companies and/or shareholders	153,935	77,329	-49.8	122,599	145,304	18.5	276,535	222,633	-19.5
Long-term debt and other non-current liabilities	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Non-current obligations under capital lease	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Deferred income taxes	469,203	439,540	-6.3	37,504	40,649	8.4	506,707	480,189	-5.2
Other deferred credits	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Provisions for major overhauls	26,120	723,014	...	6,564	3,307	-49.6	32,684	726,321	...
Other provisions	107,430	150,182	39.8	12,854	862	-93.3	120,284	151,044	25.6
Total liabilities	11,230,307	16,815,849	49.7	608,220	680,912	12.0	11,838,527	17,496,761	47.8
Shareholders equity (incorporated carriers)									
Number of carriers included ¹	26	25	-3.8	74	76	2.7	100	101	1.0
Capital stock	4,147,686	2,800,011	-32.5	170,675	176,015	3.1	4,318,361	2,976,026	-31.1
Other paid-in capital ²	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Retained earnings	670,475	-3,617,737	...	101,887	127,476	25.1	772,362	-3,490,261	...
Reserves	-7,455	-3,353	-55.0	3,890	7,595	95.2	-3,565	4,242	...
Total shareholders equity	4,810,706	-821,079	...	276,452	311,086	12.5	5,087,158	-509,993	...
Total liabilities and capital	16,041,013	15,994,770	-0.3	884,672	991,997	12.1	16,925,684	16,986,768	0.4

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

2. For reasons of confidentiality, "other paid-in capital" is included with "capital stock".

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level III air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that (a) is not a level I air carrier or level II air carrier; and (b) in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, realized gross revenues of at least 2 million dollars for the provision of air services for which the air carrier held a licence.

Table 5
Financial performance indicators, 2009 to 2011

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
	ratio								
Liquidity ratios									
Current ratio ¹	0.831	1.219	1.112	1.384	1.427	1.327	0.866	1.228	1.123
Debt structure ratio ²	0.367	0.381	0.290	0.399	0.336	0.373	0.369	0.379	0.293
Solvency ratios									
Debt-to-asset (debt) ratio ³	0.776	0.700	1.051	0.636	0.688	0.686	0.766	0.699	1.030
Debt-to equity (leverage) ratio ⁴	3.466	2.334	-20.480	1.745	2.200	2.189	3.278	2.327	-34.308
Profitability ratios									
Operating ratio ⁵	0.996	0.949	0.971	0.949	0.963	0.939	0.992	0.950	0.969
Profit margin ⁶	0.012	0.028	0.005	0.037	0.015	0.054	0.014	0.028	0.008
Return on assets ⁷	0.012	0.029	0.005	0.043	0.018	0.064	0.014	0.028	0.009
Return on investment ⁸	0.041	0.056	0.029	0.061	0.038	0.082	0.043	0.055	0.032

1. Current ratio = Current assets divided by current liabilities.

2. Debt structure ratio = Current liabilities divided by total liabilities.

3. Debt-to-asset (debt) ratio = Total liabilities divided by total assets.

4. Debt-to equity (leverage) ratio = Total liabilities divided by total shareholders' equity.

5. Operating ratio = Operating expenses divided by operating revenue.

6. Profit margin = Net income divided by operating revenue.

7. Return on assets = Net income divided by total assets.

8. Return on investment = Sum of net income and interest expenses divided by total assets.

Note(s): Level I air carriers (2009). This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in each of the two calendar years immediately preceding the reporting year, transported at least 1 million revenue passengers or at least 200 thousand tonnes of cargo.
Level I air carriers (2010 and 2011). This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.
Level II air carriers (2009). This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in each of the two calendar years immediately preceding the reporting year, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 1 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 30 thousand but less than 200 thousand tonnes of cargo.
Level II air carriers (2010 and 2011). This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.
Level III air carriers (2009). This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in each of the two calendar years immediately preceding the reporting year, realized annual gross revenues of at least 1 million dollars for the air services for which the air carrier held a licence.
Level III air carriers (2010 and 2011). This includes every Canadian air carrier that (a) is not a level I air carrier or level II air carrier; and (b) in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, realized gross revenues of at least 2 million dollars for the provision of air services for which the air carrier held a licence.

Table 6
Employment and fuel consumption, 2010 and 2011

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011
			percent			percent			percent
Average number of employees,									
wages and salaries paid									
Pilots and co-pilots (number)	7,704	7,882	2.3	1,963	2,212	12.7	9,667	10,094	4.4
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	881,180	948,478	7.6	107,025	121,112	13.2	988,205	1,069,590	8.2
Other flight personnel (number)	11,421	11,719	2.6	349	323	-7.4	11,770	12,042	2.3
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	507,055	571,027	12.6	16,983	14,271	-16.0	524,038	585,298	11.7
General management and administration (number)	2,386	2,416	1.3	969	1,127	16.3	3,355	3,543	5.6
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	198,805	220,974	11.2	53,014	64,704	22.1	251,819	285,679	13.4
Maintenance labour (number)	10,920	10,928	0.1	1,068	1,293	21.1	11,988	12,221	1.9
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	588,510	616,801	4.8	66,870	77,240	15.5	655,379	694,041	5.9
Aircraft and traffic servicing (number)	9,483	8,709	-8.2	383	390	1.8	9,866	9,099	-7.8
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	364,039	388,211	6.6	13,655	13,104	-4.0	377,694	401,314	6.3
Other personnel (number)	5,897	5,969	1.2	179	155	-13.4	6,076	6,124	0.8
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	330,792	365,334	10.4	6,914	6,030	-12.8	337,707	371,364	10.0
Total average number of employees (number)	47,811	47,623	-0.4	4,911	5,500	12.0	52,722	53,123	0.8
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	2,870,381	3,110,825	8.4	264,461	296,462	12.1	3,134,842	3,407,287	8.7
Fuel and oil									
Turbine fuel ('000 litres)	5,888,395	6,169,237	4.8	157,047	152,340	-3.0	6,045,442	6,321,577	4.6
Cost ('000\$)	4,073,523	5,389,165	32.3	157,754	168,086	6.5	4,231,277	5,557,251	31.3
Gasoline ('000 litres)	1,820	916	-49.7	13,011	19,990	53.6	14,831	20,906	41.0
Cost ('000\$)	2,199	1,028	-53.3	15,622	23,809	52.4	17,821	24,836	39.4
Turbine oil ('000 litres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cost ('000\$)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Piston oil ('000 litres)	0	0	...	14	14	-2.8	14	14	-2.8
Cost ('000\$)	0	0	...	75	93	23.8	75	93	23.8

Note(s): Level I air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported at least 2 million revenue passengers or at least 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level II air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that, in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, transported (a) at least 100 thousand but fewer than 2 million revenue passengers; or (b) at least 50 thousand but less than 400 thousand tonnes of cargo.

Level III air carriers. This includes every Canadian air carrier that (a) is not a level I air carrier or level II air carrier; and (b) in the calendar year before the year in which information is provided, realized gross revenues of at least 2 million dollars for the provision of air services for which the air carrier held a licence.

Table 7
Wages and salaries paid, by sector, by province and territory, 2010 and 2011

	2010	2011	Change from 2010 to 2011
	thousands of dollars		percent
Domestic			
Newfoundland and Labrador	28,421	25,367	-10.7
Prince Edward Island	857	0	-100.0
Nova Scotia	95,651	98,732	3.2
New Brunswick	24,664	24,816	0.6
Quebec	533,131	617,396	15.8
Ontario	1,086,009	1,163,078	7.1
Manitoba	113,571	124,189	9.3
Saskatchewan	30,121	26,418	-12.3
Alberta	613,468	603,291	-1.7
British Columbia	402,690	429,467	6.6
Yukon	10,353	11,355	9.7
Northwest Territories	53,823	52,840	-1.8
Nunavut	24,309	22,846	-6.0
Total domestic	3,017,068	3,199,797	6.1
International	116,406	89,095	-23.5
Total	3,133,474	3,288,891	5.0

Note(s): Total wages and salaries in this table do not equal total salaries and wages from the previous table due to the fact that this table is based on calendar quarters, and the previous table can be based on carrier's fiscal year end.

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Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0 ^s	value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
P	preliminary
r	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>
E	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published
*	significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

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To obtain a copy of these service standards, please contact Statistics Canada toll-free at 1-800-263-1136. The service standards are also published on www.statcan.gc.ca under "About us" > "The agency" > "Providing services to Canadians."

Note of appreciation

Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long-standing partnership between Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.