

## Aviation

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



## 2015

### Highlights

- In 2015, Canadian Level I to III air carriers reported 75.5 million enplaned passengers, up 4.5% from 2014. The domestic sector rose 1.6% to 41.3 million passengers, while the international sector (including between Canada and the United States) grew 8.2% to 34.2 million passengers. The passenger counts on scheduled flights reached 72.4 million (+6.6%), while the number of passengers flying on chartered flights declined 28.5% to 3.1 million, as a major charter carrier, CanJet Airlines, suspended its services on September 1, 2015. These air carriers recorded 176.3 billion passenger-kilometres flown in their scheduled and charter operations in 2015, up 5.5% from the previous year. The international sector (+6.8%) advanced at a faster pace than the domestic sector (+2.4%).
- After reporting a net income of \$650.8 million in 2014, Canadian Level I to III air carriers reported a net income of \$983.1 million in 2015. In 2015, total operating revenues reached \$22.6 billion, up 1.3% (or +\$284.2 million) from 2014. Total operating expenses declined to \$20.1 billion in 2015, down 2.6% (or -\$532.7 million) from the previous year, largely due to falling fuel prices.
- Canadian Level I to III air carriers consumed 7.0 billion litres of fuel (turbine fuel and gasoline) in 2015 and spent \$4.8 billion to purchase the fuel. In 2015, fuel costs accounted for 23.7% of total operating expenses, down from 30.2% in 2014.
- In 2015, 89.1 cents of each operating revenue dollar were used to cover operating expenses. Aircraft operations accounted for the largest portion of each dollar, at 42.3 cents, followed by general services and administration (30.1 cents) and maintenance (11.4 cents).
- Total assets of the Canadian Level I to III air carriers stood at \$23.4 billion in 2015, up 11.4% compared to 2014.
- The aviation industry's earning power is reflected in the profitability ratios of profit margin, return on investment and return on assets. In 2015, the profit margin was 4.4% compared to 2.9% in 2014. This shows that every dollar of service sold in 2015 earned 4.4 cents of profit for the Canadian Level I to III air carriers. The growth in profit in 2015 compared to 2014 reflected the gain in operating income, which more than offset the increase in net non-operating expenses. Both return on assets and return on investment also showed increasing profitability within the aviation industry in 2015. The rate of return on assets went from 3.1% in 2014 to 4.2% in 2015, while the rate of return on investment went from 5.1% in 2014 to 6.4% in 2015.
- Total employment in the aviation industry declined 0.4% to 55,313, while total wages and salaries increased 4.3% to \$3.9 billion compared with 2014. In 2015, wages and salaries accounted for 19.6% of the industry's total operating expenses, up from 18.3% in 2014.

## Statistical Tables

**Table 1**  
**Operating statistics, 2014 and 2015**

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015
	thousands		percent	thousands		percent	thousands		percent
<b>All services</b>									
Number of carriers included <sup>1</sup>	25	25	0.0	68	68	0.0	93	93	0.0
Passengers	70,097	73,455	4.8	2,139	2,019	-5.6	72,236	75,474	4.5
Goods carried (kilograms)	690,047	655,168	-5.1	46,717	40,145	-14.1	736,764	695,313	-5.6
Passenger-kilometres	165,246,880	174,534,534	5.6	1,861,455	1,720,146	-7.6	167,108,335	176,254,680	5.5
Passenger tonne-kilometres	16,524,688	17,453,453	5.6	186,145	172,015	-7.6	16,710,834	17,625,468	5.5
Goods tonne-kilometres	2,353,246	2,260,595	-3.9	22,838	21,929	-4.0	2,376,084	2,282,524	-3.9
Total tonne-kilometres	18,877,934	19,714,048	4.4	208,983	193,943	-7.2	19,086,918	19,907,991	4.3
Hours flown	2,415	2,486	3.0	506	478	-5.6	2,921	2,964	1.5
<b>Scheduled services</b>									
Passengers	67,428	71,981	6.8	527	430	-18.5	67,955	72,411	6.6
Goods carried (kilograms)	471,272	516,832	9.7	14,385	10,141	-29.5	485,657	526,973	8.5
Passenger-kilometres	160,039,921	172,517,998	7.8	269,261	237,075	-12.0	160,309,182	172,755,073	7.8
Passenger tonne-kilometres	16,003,992	17,251,800	7.8	26,926	23,707	-12.0	16,030,918	17,275,507	7.8
Goods tonne-kilometres	2,082,050	2,070,035	-0.6	10,122	9,667	-4.5	2,092,172	2,079,702	-0.6
Total tonne-kilometres	18,086,042	19,321,834	6.8	37,048	33,375	-9.9	18,123,090	19,355,209	6.8
Hours flown	2,257	2,378	5.4	118	108	-8.4	2,374	2,486	4.7
<b>Charter services</b>									
Passengers	2,670	1,474	-44.8	1,612	1,589	-1.4	4,282	3,063	-28.5
Goods carried (kilograms)	218,776	138,337	-36.8	32,332	30,004	-7.2	251,107	168,341	-33.0
Passenger-kilometres	5,206,959	2,016,536	-61.3	1,592,194	1,483,071	-6.9	6,799,153	3,499,607	-48.5
Passenger tonne-kilometres	520,696	201,654	-61.3	159,219	148,307	-6.9	679,915	349,961	-48.5
Goods tonne-kilometres	271,196	190,560	-29.7	12,716	12,262	-3.6	283,912	202,822	-28.6
Total tonne-kilometres	791,892	392,214	-50.5	171,935	160,569	-6.6	963,828	552,783	-42.6
Hours flown	159	109	-31.3	388	370	-4.8	547	479	-12.5

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, 2015**

	Domestic		International	
	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015
	thousands	percent	thousands	percent
<b>All services</b>				
Passengers	41,319	1.6	34,155	8.2
Passenger-kilometres	52,857,736	2.4	123,396,944	6.8

**Table 3**  
**Income statement, 2014 and 2015<sup>1</sup>**

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015
	thousands of dollars		percent	thousands of dollars		percent	thousands of dollars		percent
<b>Operating revenues</b>									
Scheduled services	18,694,437	19,318,534	3.3	257,417	233,239	-9.4	18,951,854	19,551,773	3.2
Passengers	17,798,304	18,387,180	3.3	229,065	207,273	-9.5	18,027,369	18,594,453	3.1
Goods	896,133	931,354	3.9	28,352	25,966	-8.4	924,485	957,320	3.6
Charter services	992,483	607,267	-38.8	991,123	861,417	-13.1	1,983,606	1,468,683	-26.0
Passengers	780,288	442,797	-43.3	918,501	784,705	-14.6	1,698,789	1,227,502	-27.7
Goods	212,195	164,469	-22.5	72,623	76,712	5.6	284,817	241,181	-15.3
Other flying services	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Subsidies	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Net incidental air transport related revenue	1,099,185	1,281,917	16.6	186,070	145,946	-21.6	1,285,255	1,427,863	11.1
Total operating revenues	20,822,968	21,287,384	2.2	1,486,302	1,306,051	-12.1	22,309,270	22,593,434	1.3
<b>Operating expenses</b>									
Maintenance, ground property and equipment	137,621	157,231	14.2	75,473	76,116	0.9	213,094	233,347	9.5
Aircraft operations	10,130,586	8,869,616	-12.4	792,800	690,795	-12.9	10,923,386	9,560,411	-12.5
Maintenance, flight equipment	1,917,309	2,163,510	12.8	217,825	177,934	-18.3	2,135,134	2,341,444	9.7
General services and administration	6,170,612	6,606,950	7.1	237,955	196,739	-17.3	6,408,567	6,803,689	6.2
Depreciation	910,246	1,120,344	23.1	75,417	73,916	-2.0	985,662	1,194,260	21.2
Total operating expenses	19,266,374	18,917,651	-1.8	1,399,470	1,215,500	-13.1	20,665,843	20,133,151	-2.6
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	<b>1,556,595</b>	<b>2,369,732</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>86,832</b>	<b>90,551</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>1,643,427</b>	<b>2,460,283</b>	<b>49.7</b>
<b>Non-operating income (expenses)</b>									
Capital gains (losses), net	-46,357	9,180	...	15,141	14,846	-1.9	-31,216	24,026	...
Interest and discount income	155,923	189,308	21.4	748	663	-11.4	156,670	189,970	21.3
Interest expenses	406,233	497,617	22.5	22,701	19,797	-12.8	428,934	517,414	20.6
Miscellaneous non-operating income (expenses), net	-532,287	-938,674	76.3	1,307	-1,056	...	-530,980	-939,730	77.0
Total non-operating income (expenses), net	-828,954	-1,237,803	49.3	-5,506	-5,344	-2.9	-834,460	-1,243,147	49.0
<b>Income (loss) before provision for income taxes</b>	<b>727,640</b>	<b>1,131,929</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>81,327</b>	<b>85,206</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>808,967</b>	<b>1,217,136</b>	<b>50.5</b>
Provision for income taxes (tax refund)	148,532	221,208	48.9	9,668	12,853	32.9	158,200	234,061	48.0
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>579,109</b>	<b>910,721</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>71,658</b>	<b>72,354</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>650,767</b>	<b>983,075</b>	<b>51.1</b>

1. In 2015, Canadian Level IV air carriers reported \$1.0 billion in revenue, down slightly from 2014 (-31.6 million or -3.1%). In 2015, the revenues for helicopters and for fixed-wing aircraft totalled \$713.8 million and \$289.1 million, respectively.

**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, 2014 and 2015**

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015
	thousands of dollars		percent	thousands of dollars		percent	thousands of dollars		percent
<b>Assets</b>									
Current assets	5,906,126	6,304,911	6.8	390,348	365,938	-6.3	6,296,473	6,670,849	5.9
Investments and special funds	1,490,255	2,422,386	62.5	56,009	49,836	-11.0	1,546,264	2,472,223	59.9
Operating property and equipment	15,548,213	18,174,255	16.9	1,090,967	1,082,748	-0.8	16,639,180	19,257,003	15.7
Less: accumulated depreciation	5,244,822	5,690,763	8.5	426,917	416,746	-2.4	5,671,739	6,107,509	7.7
Non-operating property and equipment	91,424	94,422	3.3	61,601	74,852	21.5	153,025	169,274	10.6
Less: accumulated depreciation	10,450	10,726	2.6	36,718	37,442	2.0	47,168	48,168	2.1
Deferred charges	2,080,872	971,488	-53.3	8,441	13,872	64.3	2,089,314	985,360	-52.8
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>19,861,618</b>	<b>22,265,974</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>1,143,731</b>	<b>1,133,058</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>21,005,349</b>	<b>23,399,032</b>	<b>11.4</b>
<b>Liabilities and capital</b>									
Current liabilities	5,780,559	6,165,520	6.7	300,427	293,790	-2.2	6,080,986	6,459,311	6.2
Advances from associated companies and/or shareholders	54,511	51,767	-5	152,872	157,939	3.3	207,383	209,706	1.1
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	417,788	435,457	4.2	42,234	36,076	-14.6	460,022	471,533	2.5
Other deferred credits	154,721	124,789	-19.3	1,496	1,947	30.1	156,217	126,736	-18.9
Provisions for major overhauls	219,247	280,445	27.9	1,917	1,024	-46.6	221,164	281,470	27.3
Other provisions	x	116,201	x	x	4,586	x	x	120,788	x
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>16,658,860</b>	<b>18,375,410</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>786,218</b>	<b>756,046</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>17,445,078</b>	<b>19,131,456</b>	<b>9.7</b>
<b>Shareholders equity</b>									
Number of carriers included <sup>1</sup>	25	25	0.0	68	68	0.0	93	93	0.0
Capital stock	2,654,525	2,778,444	4.7	161,932	141,844	-12.4	2,816,457	2,920,288	3.7
Other paid-in capital <sup>2</sup>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Retained earnings	464,261	1,031,688	122.2	190,282	224,475	18.0	654,543	1,256,163	91.9
Reserves <sup>3</sup>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Total shareholders equity</b>	<b>3,202,758</b>	<b>3,890,563</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>357,512</b>	<b>377,013</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>3,560,270</b>	<b>4,267,576</b>	<b>19.9</b>
<b>Total liabilities and capital</b>	<b>19,861,618</b>	<b>22,265,974</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>1,143,731</b>	<b>1,133,058</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>21,005,349</b>	<b>23,399,032</b>	<b>11.4</b>

1. Figures expressed in full, not in thousands.

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

3. For reasons of confidentiality, "reserves" is included with "retained earnings".

**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, 2013 to 2015**

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
	ratio								
<b>Liquidity ratios</b>									
Current ratio <sup>1</sup>	1.040	1.022	1.023	1.280	1.299	1.246	1.052	1.035	1.033
Debt structure ratio <sup>2</sup>	0.355	0.347	0.336	0.389	0.382	0.389	0.356	0.349	0.338
<b>Solvency ratios</b>									
Debt-to-asset (debt) ratio <sup>3</sup>	0.831	0.839	0.825	0.692	0.687	0.667	0.823	0.831	0.818
Debt-to equity (leverage) ratio <sup>4</sup>	4.913	5.201	4.723	2.249	2.199	2.005	4.648	4.900	4.483
<b>Profitability ratios</b>									
Operating ratio <sup>5</sup>	0.937	0.925	0.889	0.942	0.942	0.931	0.937	0.926	0.891
Profit margin <sup>6</sup>	0.024	0.028	0.043	0.053	0.048	0.055	0.025	0.029	0.044
Return on assets <sup>7</sup>	0.025	0.029	0.041	0.064	0.063	0.064	0.027	0.031	0.042
Return on investment <sup>8</sup>	0.051	0.050	0.063	0.084	0.083	0.081	0.053	0.051	0.064

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.

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**Table 6**  
**Employment and fuel consumption, 2014 and 2015**

	Levels I and II			Level III			Levels I to III		
	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015
			percent			percent			percent
<b>Average number of employees,</b>									
<b>wages and salaries paid</b>									
Pilots and co-pilots (number)	8,197	9,121	11.3	2,223	2,125	-4.4	10,420	11,246	7.9
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	1,072,895	1,139,742	6.2	141,777	133,393	-5.9	1,214,672	1,273,136	4.8
Other flight personnel (number)	12,082	11,117	-8.0	387	368	-4.9	12,469	11,485	-7.9
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	608,690	644,504	5.9	13,529	15,178	12.2	622,219	659,682	6.0
General management and administration (number)	3,347	3,041	-9.1	1,148	1,028	-10.5	4,495	4,069	-9.5
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	276,329	274,026	-0.8	67,229	63,354	-5.8	343,558	337,380	-1.8
Maintenance labour (number)	11,054	11,123	0.6	1,383	1,211	-12.4	12,437	12,334	-0.8
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	670,596	694,266	3.5	84,963	81,782	-3.7	755,559	776,048	2.7
Aircraft and traffic servicing (number)	8,930	8,833	-1.1	456	421	-7.7	9,386	9,254	-1.4
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	417,475	431,165	3.3	17,435	18,047	3.5	434,910	449,212	3.3
Other personnel (number)	6,111	6,626	8.4	210	299	42.4	6,321	6,925	9.6
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	401,500	438,928	9.3	8,123	9,860	21.4	409,624	448,789	9.6
Total average number of employees (number)	49,721	49,861	0.3	5,807	5,452	-6.1	55,528	55,313	-0.4
Wages and salaries ('000\$)	3,447,486	3,622,632	5.1	333,056	321,614	-3.4	3,780,542	3,944,246	4.3
<b>Fuel and oil</b>									
Turbine fuel ('000 litres)	6,760,042	6,848,431	1.3	200,598	168,434	-16.0	6,960,640	7,016,865	0.8
Cost ('000\$)	6,014,761	4,593,138	-23.6	218,918	167,188	-23.6	6,233,679	4,760,326	-23.6
Gasoline ('000 litres)	1,759	1,449	-17.6	12,242	16,222	32.5	14,001	17,671	26.2
Cost ('000\$)	2,385	1,503	-37.0	15,121	17,518	15.9	17,506	19,021	8.7
Turbine oil ('000 litres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cost ('000\$)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Piston oil ('000 litres)	0	0	...	13	36	172.7	13	36	172.7
Cost ('000\$)	0	0	...	84	306	263.4	84	306	263.4

**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.

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**Table 7**  
**Wages and salaries paid, by sector, by province and territory, 2014 and 2015**

	2014	2015	Change from 2014 to 2015
	thousands of dollars		percent
<b>Domestic</b>			
Newfoundland and Labrador	37,910	31,223	-17.6
Prince Edward Island	139	155	11.5
Nova Scotia	90,663	92,282	1.8
New Brunswick	24,388	20,215	-17.1
Quebec	714,795	739,898	3.5
Ontario	1,355,612	1,441,778	6.4
Manitoba	114,301	127,767	11.8
Saskatchewan	32,424	29,860	-7.9
Alberta	739,996	787,665	6.4
British Columbia	500,893	527,719	5.4
Yukon	22,727	18,395	-19.1
Northwest Territories	43,661	44,460	1.8
Nunavut	30,711	34,300	11.7
<b>Total domestic</b>	<b>3,708,222</b>	<b>3,895,716</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>International</b>	83,357	86,161	3.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,791,579</b>	<b>3,981,877</b>	<b>5.0</b>

**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 <sup>s</sup>	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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