

Air transport in Italy

Year 2009

The National Institute of Statistics makes available statistics on air transport for the year 2009. The survey on air transport is carried out in accordance with EC Regulation 437/2003 of the European Parliament and the Council of 27 February 2003. The survey is a census and collects information from airport management companies, with the collaboration of the National Civil Aviation Authority (ENAC). Data covers the airport traffic of aircraft, passengers, freight and mail, incoming and/or departing from domestic airports, with regard to civil aviation business. In this note the main results of the survey are presented, with reference to the comparison between the domestic and international air traffic. Methodological aspects are explained in the informative note. Definitions are included in the glossary.

Domestic and international air traffic in 2009

In 2009, the total air traffic in national airports recorded a negative trend: aircrafts arrived and departed over the previous year decreased by 4.8 percent, passengers by 2.4 percent and cargo and mail carried by 13.5 percent (Table 1). For passengers, the decrease was due to a reduction in international traffic (-4.5 percent), while domestic traffic increased only slightly (+0.5 percent). For both types of traffic, the reduction in the use of charter flights was significant, registering a 11.8 percent decrease for domestic traffic and 14.7 percent for international market.

Table 1 – Traffic of aircrafts, passengers, freight and mail. Years 2008 and 2009
(aircrafts and passengers movement in number; freight and mail in tonnes)

AIR TRAFFIC	2008	2009	CHANGES	
			Absolute	Percentage
Aircraft movements (a)	1,416,365	1,348,878	-67,487	-4.8
Passengers: (b)	132,994,068	129,794,666	-3,199,402	-2.4
<i>National traffic</i>	55,978,120	56,264,788	286,668	0.5
scheduled	55,427,990	55,779,567	351,577	0.6
charter	550,130	485,221	-64,909	-11.8
<i>International traffic</i>	77,015,948	73,529,878	-3,486,070	-4.5
scheduled	68,924,879	66,629,369	-2,295,510	-3.3
charter	8,091,069	6,900,509	-1,190,560	-14.7
Freight and mail (c)	866,683	749,969	-116,714	-13.5

Source: Istat, Survey on Air transport

(a) Movements of aircraft arriving and departing from domestic airports, total national and international traffic.

(b) Passengers disembarking and embarking at domestic airports.

(c) Freight and mail loaded and unloaded at national airports, total national and international traffic.

The evolution of airport traffic from 2000 to 2009

The relevant decline in passenger and cargo movement began in 2008 and continued in 2009. This fall reversed the expansive trend that had characterized the previous five years, with a significant acceleration in 2006-2007 (Table 2). Aircraft traffic scored over the biennium a large contraction, due to the direct effects of

national and international economic crisis: between 2007 and 2009 the number of aircraft movements declined by 10.1 percent, 5.3 percent for passengers and 23.8 percent for freight and mail.

Table 2 – Movement of aircrafts, passengers, freight and mail. Years 2000-2009
(absolute values in thousands and percentage changes)

YEARS	MOVEMENTS (a)		PASSENGERS (b)		FREIGHT AND MAIL (c)	
	Number	Percentage change	Number	Percentage change	Tonnes	Percentage change
2000	1,247	9.0	91,454	11.5	749	11.1
2001	1,238	-0.7	90,210	-1.4	723	-3.5
2002	1,217	-1.7	90,610	0.4	737	1.9
2003 (d)	1,273	4.6	100,703	11.1	777	5.4
2004	1,278	0.4	107,921	7.2	819	5.4
2005	1,301	1.8	113,352	5.0	858	4.8
2006	1,366	5.0	123,258	8.7	904	5.4
2007	1,500	9.8	137,071	11.2	984	8.8
2008	1,416	-5.6	132,994	-3.0	867	-11.9
2009	1,349	-4.8	129,795	-2.4	750	-13.5

Font: Istat, Survey on Air transport

(a) Movements of aircraft arriving and departing from domestic airports, total national and international traffic.

(b) Passengers disembarking and embarking at domestic airports.

(c) Freight and mail loaded and unloaded at national airports, total national and international traffic.

(d) Since 2003 data come from the new survey, and therefore are only partially comparable with those of previous years.

The transport of freight and mail

In 2009, air transport recorded a total traffic of freight and mail loaded and unloaded of about 750 thousand tons, with a 13.5 percent decrease over the previous year (Table 3). The overall decrease of the goods transported was due to the reduction in both national (-12.4 percent) and international (-13.6 percent). Transported goods were carried out predominantly on scheduled flights (about 617 thousand tons), and to a limited extent on non scheduled flights (about 133,000 tonnes), with odds respectively equal to 82.3 and to 17.7 percent. Transport on scheduled flights declined by 13.9 percent and one on non scheduled flights of 11.3 percent.

Table 3 – Movement of freight and mail by category and type of air service. Years 2008 and 2009
(absolute values in thousands of tonnes, percentage change and percentage composition)

TYPES OF AIR SERVICES	2008			2009			2009/2008 (percentage change)		
	Scheduled	Non Scheduled	Total	Scheduled	Non Scheduled	Total	Scheduled	Non Scheduled	Total
ABSOLUTE VALUES									
Total Freight and mail	716,935	149,748	866,683	617,104	132,865	749,969	-13.9	-11.3	-13.5
<i>National services</i>	94,665	25,431	120,096	84,995	20,202	105,197	-10.2	-20.6	-12.4
<i>International services</i>	622,270	124,317	746,587	532,109	112,663	644,772	-14.5	-9.4	-13.6
PERCENTAGE COMPOSITION									
Total Freight and mail	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0			
<i>National services</i>	13.2	17.0	13.9	13.8	15.2	14.0			
<i>International services</i>	86.8	83.0	86.1	86.2	84.8	86.0			

Source: Istat, Survey on Air transport

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