The Air Travel Value Proposition:
Safer, Cheaper, Greener, Quieter – and Fast

Updated Sept. 9, 2019
U.S. Airline Industry Safety Has Improved Markedly

Fatal Accidents per 10M Aircraft Departures (Scheduled Part 121 Operations)

Source: A4A analysis of data from the National Transportation Safety Board (Tables 6 and 12) for U.S. air carriers operating under 14 CFR 121, scheduled service
We’re Experiencing the Safest Period in Aviation History
The Fatality Risk for a U.S. Airline Passenger Has Fallen to 1 in 135 Million

Airline Passenger Fatalities per Billion Passengers Boarded*

Source: Dr. Arnold Barnett, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

* Includes deliberate acts
Americans Have Seen Increases in the Average Price of Food, Shelter, Public Transportation and Entertainment Over The Past Two and a Half Decades

**Food & Public Transit**
- Price Index: 1982-84 = 100
- Food: +81%
- Transit: +92%

**Existing Home ($000)**
- Price Index: 1982-84 = 100
- +169%

**Baseball / Movie Tickets**
- MLB: +270%
- Movies: +116%

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, National Association of Relators, National Association of Theatre Owners, Team Marketing Report
Since 2000, the Price of Purchasing Food, Taking the Bus/Train, or Going to the Movies/Ballpark Has Significantly Outpaced the Price of Taking a Trip by Air

Price Index: 2000 = 100

Source: A4A, BTS, FRB St. Louis, National Association of Theatre Owners, Team Marketing Report

* Domestic round-trip average, including bag and change fees
**Relative to Most Consumer Goods and Services, Air Travel Is a Bargain**

**U.S. Inflation and Personal Incomes Have Sharply Outpaced Price of Domestic Air Travel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Consumer Good (Unit)</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>% Δ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public College Tuition &amp; Fees (4-Year, In-State, Net)</td>
<td>$1,159</td>
<td>$3,740</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jet Fuel (Gallon, Price Paid by U.S. Airlines)</td>
<td>$0.81</td>
<td>$2.16</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disney World® Magic Kingdom (1-Day, Adult, Regular Season)</td>
<td>$46</td>
<td>$119</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Football League Game (Nonpremium Ticket)</td>
<td>$43.70</td>
<td>$100.26</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major League Baseball Game (Nonpremium Ticket)</td>
<td>$16.67</td>
<td>$32.29</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription Drugs (BLS Index)</td>
<td>285.425</td>
<td>528.003</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disposable Personal Income per Capita (Annual)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$26,262</strong></td>
<td><strong>$48,075</strong></td>
<td><strong>83</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gasoline (Gallon, Unleaded Regular, Retail Including Taxes)</td>
<td>$1.510</td>
<td>$2.735</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-Family Home (Existing)</td>
<td>$147,300</td>
<td>$261,600</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie Ticket (One Adult)</td>
<td>$5.39</td>
<td>$9.11</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food (BLS Index)</td>
<td>167.817</td>
<td>253.562</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Consumer Price Index (CPI-U)¹</strong></td>
<td><strong>172.200</strong></td>
<td><strong>251.107</strong></td>
<td><strong>46</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle (New, Retail)</td>
<td>$24,900</td>
<td>$35,608</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transit</td>
<td>209.492</td>
<td>258.795</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Plants and Flowers</td>
<td>114.700</td>
<td>131.121</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Air Travel (R/T Domestic Fare + Ancillary)²</strong></td>
<td><strong>$317.84</strong></td>
<td><strong>$362.13</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apparel: Clothing/Shoes/Jewelry (BLS Index)</td>
<td>129.575</td>
<td>125.654</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Television (BLS Index)</td>
<td>49.925</td>
<td>1.966</td>
<td>(96)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Bureau of Labor Statistics “measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services.”
2. A4A analysis of data collected by BTS via Airline Data Inc. – excludes taxes; “ancillary” includes revenue from reservation changes/cancellations and baggage.

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“Air Travel Is Not Expensive: See for Yourself...It Costs Less Than You Think”

- In 1941, a one-way ticket from BOS to LAX in cost the traveler $156.42 and required 15 hours and 15 minutes – including 12 stops
BOS-LAX Was Not a Simple Journey in the So-Called “Golden Age” of Air Travel
Boston-Los Angeles Air Travel: ~9.4 Hours Faster, ~90% Cheaper (in Real* Terms)

Average Round-Trip BOS-LAX Airfare and One-Way Block Time

1941 Actual (15hrs 15mins, 12 stops) $282
1941 Inflation-Adjusted* $4,810
2018 Actual (5hrs 51mins) $427

Source: DOT Data Bank 1B via Diio Mi; "Air Travel Is Not Expensive," The Saturday Evening Post (Mar. 22, 1941), p. 59; Campbell-Hill Aviation Group * Adjusted using 2018 constant dollars (http://www.bls.gov/cpi/#tables)
From 2000-2018, Boston-Los Angeles* Airfare Declined Materially; Traffic More Than Doubled

Source: DOT Data Bank 1B (Passenger Origin-Destination Survey) via Diio Mi

* BUR/LAX/LGB; 91% of BOS-LAX* passengers flew nonstop in 2018
The Share of Flights Arriving Early or on Schedule Has Risen Steadily Over the Past Few Decades, Whereas On-Time 0:15 and 0:30 Have Been Relatively Flat

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Domestic Flight Completion Factor (CF) and On-Time Arrival Rates – Percent

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics
With Each Decade, U.S. Airline Fuel Efficiency Has Improved – Up 134% From 1978-2018

Revenue Ton Miles* Flown per Gallon

- 1.93 (1960s)
- 2.51 (1970s)
- 3.83 (1980s)
- 4.44 (1990s)
- 5.58 (2000s)
- 6.49 (2010-2018)
- 6.82 (2018)

Source: A4A and BTS, for all U.S. passenger and all-cargo airlines

* An RTM is a single ton of payload (passengers or cargo) carried one mile in revenue service.
Commercial Aviation Has Gotten Markedly Quieter: Noise Exposure Plunged As Traffic Surged

1. U.S. residents exposed to significant (65 dB DNL) noise levels from all aviation operations within U.S. airspace
2. Passengers enplaned on U.S. and foreign flag carriers as captured in the FAA Terminal Area Forecast (TAF)

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The Value Proposition for U.S. Air Travelers Is Alive and Well
It’s Safer, It’s Greener, It’s Quieter, It’s ~80 Percent On-Time and It’s Still a Bargain

* Five-year-moving-average fatal accident rate for U.S. air carriers operating under 14 CFR 121 scheduled service.