

Forecasting Fact Sheet



The Master Plan is the principal blueprint for the airport's future coordinated development. Forecasts are developed so that Melbourne Airport can consider how to respond and safeguard for expected growth. Due to the timeline of the Master Plan process, forecasts were completed early in the process so that the various input studies and plans could be formulated. The forecast for the 2022 Master Plan was completed in October 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 significantly impacted the aviation industry and created great uncertainty around forecasting any future growth. Currently it is too early to accurately predict COVID-19's short to medium term impact on aviation demand. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has outlined it will take more than five years for global travel to fully return to 2019 levels.

It has been assumed the industry will recover within the Master Plan's 20-year planning horizon, and that airport volumes over these 20 years are unlikely to exceed the 2019 forecast.

This Master Plan therefore takes a practical and sensible approach by safeguarding and planning for the pre-COVID forecast developed in October 2019. This ensures that the airport can respond to a 'fast recovery' post COVID-19 if required; if not required, projects will be delayed until activity levels trigger the need for their development. The Master Plan also provides a conservative view of impacts arising from increased aircraft movements such as aircraft noise, emissions and traffic.

The graph shown highlights: the range of possible recovery pathways for passenger numbers, consistent with Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics (BITRE) guidance on COVID-19 recovery forecasts. The Master Plan forecast is shown for reference.

For further information refer to Part B Section 7 of the 2022 Master Plan.

Key features:



37M – 77M PASSENGERS

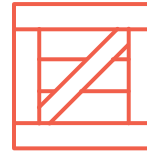
Annual passenger movements

2018-19 – More than

37 million
passengers

2041-42 – Almost

77 million



448KT – 980KT FREIGHT

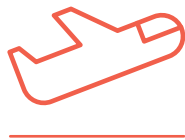
Annual freight movements

2018-19 –

448,000
tonnes

2041-42 –

980,000
tonnes



429K AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS

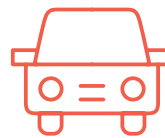
Annual aircraft movements

2018-19 – More than

246,000
movements

2041-42 – More than

429,000
movements



130K – 270K CAR TRIPS

Busy day vehicle trips (to and from the airport)

2018-19 –

130,000
vehicles per day

2041-42 –

270,000
vehicles per day

Post COVID-19 Forecast Range: Annual Passenger Numbers

