

Traffic Snapshot

- February 2024 total passenger movements for MAHB network of airports was remarkably high, recording 11.0 million passengers, despite February shorter days.
- The high passenger volume was partly driven by year end school holidays, China's Spring Festival, new airlines, additional frequencies, Chinese New Year festive seasons, Routes Asia events in Langkawi, driving February 2024 passengers and achieving a growth for the first time since March 2020 at 3.3% against a lower base in February 2019.
- It is encouraging to note that the international passenger movements of 5.8 million was the highest movements to-date since February 2020 and on par with the average passenger movements in the 2H19.
- Domestic passenger numbers registered 5.2 million, reaching the highest recovery rate of 94.5% over 2019 February and surpassing December 2023 volume.
- Similarly, airports in Malaysia recorded new highs registering 7.8 million total passengers, the highest volume for a month since February 2020 with 95.8% recovery rate over 2019 levels.
- February movements have also exceeded 2019 average daily passengers between 1% to 10% on seven separate occasions for the first time since the pandemic outbreak in 2020.
- The encouraging traffic is partly driven by new airline operations, Chinese New Year festive seasons, airlines' route resumption and expansion, visa exemptions for China and India and the one-month long school holidays.
- Remarkably the international passenger movements surpassed December peak month traffic signifying traffic continual recovery and trailing pre-COVID trends. Equally, the domestic sector was encouraging, recording 3.8million passengers at 94.9% recovery rate over 2019 levels.
- Istanbul SAW traffic continued to be buoyant with February 2024 27.4% growth over 2019 levels and exceeding January 2024 passengers by 0.2% at 3.2million passengers. International continues to drive growth, with a remarkable 86.0% growth over February 2019 and 31.9% over February 2023.

Passenger movements ('000) snapshot, February 2024

Total	2024		% YOY	2023		%YOY	2024		2023	
	February	February		Year-to-date	Year-to-date		¹ LTM	¹ LTM	%YOY	%YOY
KLIA	4,679	3,306	41.5%	9,002	6,819	32.0%	49,418	30,197	63.7%	
<i>International</i>	3,400	2,231	52.4%	6,654	4,596	44.8%	34,629	18,334	88.9%	
<i>ASEAN</i>	1,594	1,109	43.7%	3,128	2,288	36.7%	16,958	9,577	77.1%	
<i>Non-ASEAN</i>	1,806	1,121	61.0%	3,526	2,308	52.8%	17,671	8,757	101.8%	
<i>Domestic</i>	1,279	1,075	18.9%	2,348	2,223	5.6%	14,789	11,863	24.7%	
MASB Airports	3,129	2,483	26.0%	5,756	5,249	9.7%	35,218	29,283	20.3%	
<i>International</i>	648	391	65.8%	1,222	813	50.4%	6,464	3,056	111.5%	
<i>ASEAN</i>	441	316	39.8%	844	659	28.0%	4,850	2,751	76.3%	
<i>Non-ASEAN</i>	206	74.9	175.0%	378	154	146.2%	1,614	305	429.5%	
<i>Domestic</i>	2,481	2,093	18.6%	4,534	4,436	2.2%	28,754	26,227	9.6%	
Total MAHB	7,808	5,789	34.9%	14,758	12,068	22.3%	84,636	59,480	42.3%	
Istanbul SGIA²	3,196	2,495	28.1%	6,384	5,323	19.9%	38,622	32,352	19.4%	
Total MAHB System	11,004	8,285	32.8%	21,142	17,391	21.6%	123,258	91,832	34.2%	

International	2024	2023	% YOY	2024	2023	%YOY	2024	2023	%YOY
	February			Year- to-date			LTM		
KLIA	3,400	2,231	52.4%	6,654	4,596	44.8%	34,629	18,334	88.9%
ASEAN	1,594	1,109	43.7%	3,128	2,288	36.7%	16,958	9,577	77.1%
Non-ASEAN	1,806	1,121	61.0%	3,526	2,308	52.8%	17,671	8,757	101.8%
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Non-ASEAN	206	74.9	175.0%	378.3	154	146.2%	1,614	305	429.5%
Total KLIA & MASB	4,048	2,621	54.4%	7,876	5,408	45.6%	41,093	21,390	92.1%
ASEAN	2,036	1,425	42.9%	3,972	2,947	34.8%	21,808	12,328	76.9%
Non-ASEAN	2,012	1,196	68.2%	3,904	2,461	58.6%	19,285	9,062	112.8%
Istanbul SGIA	1,712	1,297	31.9%	3,436	2,755	24.7%	20,258	16,441	23.2%
Total MAHB System	5,760	3,919	47.0%	11,312	8,164	38.6%	61,352	37,831	62.2%

Domestic	2024	2023	% YOY	2024	2023	%YOY	2024	2023	%YOY
	February			Year- to-date			LTM		
KLIA	1,279	1,075	18.9%	2,348	2,223	5.6%	14,789	11,863	24.7%
MASB Airports	2,481	2,093	18.6%	4,534	4,436	2.2%	28,754	26,227	9.6%
Total	3,760	3,168	18.7%	6,882	6,660	3.3%	43,543	38,090	14.3%
Istanbul SGIA	1,484	1,198	23.9%	2,948	2,568	14.8%	18,363	15,912	15.4%
Total MAHB System	5,244	4,366	20.1%	9,830	9,227	6.5%	61,906	54,001	14.6%

*February is preliminary, where main variations if any lie largely from the non-scheduled or charter flights at domestic airports

**MASB Airports refers to the 38 Malaysian airports other than KLIA/KUL operated by Malaysia Airports Sdn Bhd.

†Istanbul SGIA is Istanbul Sabiha Gokcen International Airport with the SAW three-letter International Air Transport Association (IATA) code

KLIA Main & klia2 passenger movements ('000) snapshot, February 2024

Airport	2024	2023	% YOY	2024	2023	%YOY	2024	2023	%YOY
	February			Year- to-date			LTM		
KLIA Main Total	2,553	1,689	51.2%	4,885	3,484	40.2%	25,077	15,847	58.2%
<i>International</i>	1,952	1,327	47.1%	3,825	2,737	39.7%	19,621	11,356	72.8%
ASEAN	691	455	51.8%	1,358	933	45.5%	7,079	4,052	74.7%
Non-ASEAN	1,261	872	44.6%	2,467	1,804	36.7%	12,542	7,304	71.7%
<i>Domestic</i>	601	362	66.2%	1,061	746	42.2%	5,456	4,492	21.5%
klia2 Total	2,127	1,617	31.5%	4,117	3,335	23.4%	24,341	14,350	69.6%
<i>International</i>	1,448	904	60.3%	2,829	1,858	52.3%	15,008	6,978	115.1%
ASEAN	904	654	38.1%	1,770	1,354	30.7%	9,879	5,525	78.8%
Non-ASEAN	545	249	118.5%	1,059	504	110.3%	5,129	1,454	252.9%
<i>Domestic</i>	678	714	-5.0%	1,287	1,477	-12.9%	9,332	7,371	26.6%

Aircraft movements snapshot, February 2024

Total	2024	2023	% YOY	2024	2023	% YOY	2024	2023	% YOY
	February	February		Year- to-date	Year- to-date		LTM	LTM	
KLIA	28,362	22,092	28.4%	56,985	46,227	23.3%	329,784	221,405	49.0%
MASB Airports	29,856	27,171	9.9%	58,090	58,400	-0.5%	366,595	358,363	2.3%
Total	58,218	49,263	18.2%	115,075	104,627	10.0%	696,379	579,768	20.1%
Istanbul SGIA	18,205	14,574	24.9%	37,005	31,789	16.4%	227,466	198,363	14.7%
Total MAHB System	76,423	63,837	19.7%	152,080	136,416	11.5%	923,845	778,131	18.7%

International	2024	2023	% YOY	2023	2022	% YOY	2024	2023	% YOY
	February	February		Year- to-date	Year- to-date		LTM	LTM	
KLIA	19,989	14,442	38.4%	40,740	29,971	35.9%	225,583	131,304	71.8%
MASB Airports	5,431	3,915	38.7%	10,604	8,264	28.3%	60,019	38,132	57.4%
Total	25,420	18,357	38.5%	51,344	38,235	34.3%	285,602	169,436	68.6%
Istanbul SGIA	9,776	7,864	24.3%	20,154	16,897	19.3%	121,268	102,757	18.0%
Total MAHB System	35,196	26,221	34.2%	71,498	55,132	29.7%	406,870	272,193	49.5%

Domestic	2024	2023	% YOY	2023	2022	% YOY	2024	2023	% YOY
	February	February		Year- to-date	Year- to-date		LTM	LTM	
KLIA	8,373	7,650	9.5%	16,245	16,256	-0.1%	104,201	90,101	15.6%
MASB Airports	24,425	23,256	5.0%	47,486	50,136	-5.3%	306,576	320,231	-4.3%
Total	32,798	30,906	6.1%	63,731	66,392	-4.0%	410,777	410,332	0.1%
Istanbul SGIA	8,429	6,710	25.6%	16,851	14,892	13.2%	106,198	95,606	11.1%
Total MAHB System	41,227	37,616	9.6%	80,582	81,284	-0.9%	516,975	505,938	2.2%

Overview of traffic

February 2024 passenger movements for the MAHB network of airports showed an unusually strong growth momentum, recording 11 million passengers despite February shorter days and exceeding February 2019 levels by 3.3%. The robust growth was driven by a combination of positive dynamics such as the one-month year end school holidays, the eight-day Chinese Spring Festival season, 30 days visa exemptions for China and India, new airlines, additional frequencies, Chinese New Year festive and Routes Asia event in Langkawi. Remarkably, the international passenger movements recorded new highs exceeding 5 million marks for the second consecutive month at 5.8million passengers, a double-digit increase of 12.8% over February 2019. Domestic passenger movements were equally encouraging, recording 5.2million passengers reaching a high recovery rate of 94.5%.

Correspondingly, traffic at airports in Malaysia continue to show resilience recording new highs of 7.8million passengers, reaching more than 90% recovery rate for the first time at 95.8%. It is noteworthy to note that the daily average international passenger movements occasionally exceeded February 2019 on seven separate days between 1% to 10%. There has been an increase in passengers from Mainland China and India following the introduction of the 30 days visa-free entry from 1 December 2023, with both sectors reaching 86% and 90% respectively over 2019 levels. Domestic sector fared well, recording 3.8 million passenger movements reaching 94.8% of February 2019 levels, marking the highest recovery rate since the pandemic outbreak. The average load factor reached more than 80% at 82.9%, indicating traffic is on the path towards normalisation, particularly during months with festive seasons and school holidays, which tend to be peak months.

The robust growth in traffic was also driven by airline route expansions, new airlines and routes resumption. KL International Airport (KUL) welcomed Turkmenistan Airlines with twice weekly frequencies from Ashgabat expanding Central Asian connectivity. Loong Air commenced operations to Hangzhou with thrice-weekly frequencies starting 1st February. Batik Air Malaysia's additional operations from KUL to Tawau, with daily services, and to Kota Bharu and Sibul, with twice weekly services, have further stimulated growth in domestic passenger movements and expanding the airline's international network across Asia and Europe, introducing service to six new city pairs, namely Kaohsiung, Dayong, and Batam with three flights per week, and SAW, Kunming, and Zhengzhou with four flights per week, respectively. In addition, AirAsia recommenced Lombok service from KUL with three weekly frequencies after suspending the service in May 2019, and in addition introduced Thiruvananthapuram with four weekly frequencies, increasing the airlines' expansion to India. Kota Kinabalu International Airport welcomed direct flights from Jakarta operated by Indonesia AirAsia and Shanghai Pudong by AirAsia, with thrice weekly frequencies respectively. Penang and Langkawi International Airport also welcomed Flydubai with daily service to open new outward streams of leisure travel from Dubai.

Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen International Airport (SAW) traffic continued to be buoyant, recording 3.2 million passenger movements, surpassing pre-pandemic levels by 27.4%, marking the highest recovery rate to-date. International sector, the main driver for growth, surpassed 2019 levels with a remarkable 86.0% growth, while the domestic passenger movements recorded 1.5million passengers, reaching 93.4% of 2019 levels. In a move to bolster connectivity between KUL and SAW, Batik Air expanded its service offerings with the introduction of four weekly frequencies for this route. This expansion not only enhances the air link between Malaysia and Türkiye but also establishes SAW's longest route and first connectivity to the Far East.

In the latest February 2024 revision, the Airport Council International (ACI) indicated that the Asia Pacific Region is expected to surpass 2019 levels by 3% for the first time since COVID-19, by the end of 2024. ACI also forecasted that the global passenger numbers for 2024 would surpass 2019 by 6% and increase by 12% compared to 2023.