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Latest ACCC report confirms Australian airports still in recovery

The Australian Airports Association (AAA) notes today's release of the annual Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) Airport Monitoring report.

AAA Head of Policy and Advocacy, Merrick Peisley said the ACCC report provides a snapshot of airports slowly recovering from travel disruptions after the pandemic.

"At a time when some parts of the aviation sector are making record profits, the ACCC found that total operating profit for the four major airports is well down on pre-pandemic levels," Mr Peisley said.

"It is pleasing to see domestic passenger numbers are returning to normal although international numbers remain 60-70% of pre-pandemic levels and this shows the need for the Australian Government to continue to help attract new international airlines to support the vital travel and tourism sector that accounts for 6% of Australia's GDP.

"The Federal and State Governments should be encouraging as many international carriers to fly here as this can and help facilitate existing airlines to increase their flight numbers and increase passenger numbers to pre-pandemic levels."

This report also highlights how airports are a volume business with an incentive to maximise passenger movements through terminals.

"The average airports aeronautical revenue per passenger was \$21.65 across the four major airports. This shows how small a proportion aeronautical fees are in making up the cost of an airfare ticket.

"The AAA is continuing its calls on the Federal Government to allow the ACCC to continue its quarterly Airline Monitoring Report, after the monitoring ended in June. This will go some way to holding airlines to the same level of scrutiny as airports."

The AAA is the national voice for airports, representing the interests of more than 340 airports and aerodromes across Australia. It also represents over 150 corporate members supplying products and services to airports and the wide aviation industry.

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