



U.S. Travel Agents Start New Year with Strong Air Ticket Sales

Ticket Transactions Up by 3 Percent Compared to January 2011

ARLINGTON, Va. – February 9, 2012 – ARC, the financial settlement link between airlines and travel sellers, reported today that the consolidated dollar value of airline tickets sold by U.S.-based travel agencies increased 10.7 percent* in the first month of 2012 compared to January 2011, and 22.3 percent over the same period in 2010. January 2012 ticket sales totalled \$7.3 billion, compared to \$6.6 billion in 2011, and \$5.9 billion in 2010.

Year-to-date passenger segments in January 2012 fell 2.3 percent – at 27.7 million segments, compared to 28.3 million in January 2011 – while reflecting a slight .86 percent decrease over the same period in 2010. Ticket transactions in January 2012 were up, at 3.2 percent compared to the same period in 2011, and 5.4 percent over the same period in 2010.

More detailed information is available at <https://www.arccorp.com/news/stat/2012-01.jsp>

About ARC:

As the financial backbone of the U.S. travel industry, ARC enables commerce among travel agencies, airlines, and travel suppliers, and offers them secure and accurate financial settlement services. More than 14,000 travel agencies and 190 airlines use the company's transaction settlement services that, in 2011, totaled more than \$82 billion in value. ARC also supplies transactional data to organizations, facilitating better business decisions through fact-based market analyses. Established in 1984, ARC is headquartered in Arlington, Va. For more information, visit www.arccorp.com.

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Notes for Editors:

*Ticket Sales

- Results based on sales data ending January 31, 2012 from 14,014 U.S. retail and corporate travel agencies, satellite ticket printing offices, and online travel agencies.
- Does not include sales of tickets purchased directly from airlines.
- Total sales are equal to the total amount paid for a ticket, which includes taxes and fees.

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