

## **HAS Statistical Summary**

### **July 2009**

The second half of 2009 has gotten off to a promising start, with both commercial airports within the Houston Airport System (HAS) posting passenger totals that seem to represent a move toward stabilization.

Like most major airports across the country, both George Bush Intercontinental (IAH) and William P. Hobby (HOU) Airports have so far seen a year-to-date decrease in the overall number of passengers for 2009. However the month of July represents the strongest signal yet that an upward trend may be beginning to surface.

At IAH for example, the total number of passengers from July 2009 was just 1.5 percent lower than the same totals from July 2008.

This represents a positive uptick when you consider the fact that prior to this posting, the average month-to-month reduction in '09 had been just below 10 percent.

Overall, Houston's "Big Airport" saw a total of 3,967,601 passengers in the month of July, an increase of 288,844 passengers over the previous month's total.

Meanwhile at HOU, a similar positive trend appears to be emerging with the monthly passenger count from July 2009 closely rivaling those from July 2008.

In fact the reduction was a mere 42,943 passengers, out of the 816,759 people that flew in and out of Hobby Airport during July 2009.

That represents a reduction of just 5 percent when compared to the July totals from 2008, the lowest monthly reduction of the year so far.

A similar story can be told when discussing the air freight numbers for July 2009. At IAH the monthly reductions had been ranging from 14 percent to 20 percent in the first six months of the year.

However July 2009 was less than 10 percent off its 2008 counterpart, while the air freight numbers at HOU actually represented an increase in tonnage handled over the previous year's July total.