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Re-engineering efforts by both the Department of Homeland Security and OTTI/International Trade Administration have converted international air traffic source data from a paper-based DHS I-92 system to an electronic reporting system based on the advanced passenger information system (APIS).

As a result, OTTI can now present a more timely and holistic look at the U.S. international air traffic market.

While the centerpiece continues to be on U.S. citizen/resident outbound data since that converts to U.S. travel exports, OTTI now has at hand additional data worthy of sharing with the public and transportation stakeholders.

The goal will be to report overall air traffic statistics, for the month of travel, as soon as it's available after month end (on/about the 15th of the following month). Summary charts presented in this issue, on regions, ports and airline traffic, will subsequently appear as linked Excel tables.

Metrics to be reported are total travel (arrivals and departures), the mix of U.S. citizen vs. foreign citizen air travel, U.S. flag airlines vs. foreign flag carriers and top foreign airports. Another benefit from APIS is that U.S. - Canada air traffic is now available for the first time.

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