

Flight Information provides advice and information useful for the safe and efficient conduct of flight, including weather reports and forecasts, field condition reports, data concerning aids to navigation, traffic information, refuelling and transportation facilities and other related data of assistance to the pilot in planning or conducting a flight. Such service is provided by all air-traffic control units but particularly by the seven area control centres—one to a region.

Alerting for Search and Rescue is designed to ensure that the appropriate organizations are notified of aircraft in need of search and rescue aid and otherwise to assist such organizations, as required. Area control centres are responsible for notifying these organizations promptly of non-arrival at destination of any aircraft for which a flight plan or flight notification has been received. This requires the maintenance and constant supervision of a continuous record of active flights to ensure that non-arrival of any aircraft is detected immediately. The service is available to any pilot who files either a flight plan or a flight notification with any communications agency of the Air Services Branch of this Department or directly with one of the area control centres or control towers.

Customs Notification Service facilitates the routine notification of the appropriate customs agency by pilots who plan to cross the United States-Canada boundary. The Air-Traffic Control communications system and units connected therewith forward pilot requests to notify the customs officer at the airport of destination.

Aircraft Identification Service is provided by area control centres to assist the Department of National Defence in establishing the identification of all aircraft operating within specified areas.

Air Traffic Control employs 174 airport controllers, 94 area controllers, 14 approach controllers, 75 air-traffic control assistants and a headquarters staff of nine—a total of 366 persons—and operates 22 airport control towers and seven area control centres. The number of controlled operations in Canada during 1954 was 1,693,133, an increase of 9.6 p.c. over the preceding year. Of this total 73.5 p.c. represented civil and 26.5 p.c. military operations.

Summary of Operation Statistics.—The statistics given in Table 4 show the steady increase in recent years in passenger, freight and mail traffic.

4.—Summary Statistics of Civil Aviation 1950-54

NOTE.—Figures from 1921 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1924 edition.

Item		1950	1951	1952	1953 ^a	1954
Aircraft Miles Flown—						
Revenue.....	No.	39,901,935	46,253,726	52,125,891	57,284,591	54,438,400
Non-revenue.....	"	1,466,559	1,905,996	..	1,735,493	1,332,318
Totals.....	No.	41,368,494	48,159,722	52,125,891	59,020,084	55,770,718
Passengers Carried—						
Revenue ¹	No.	1,452,081	1,788,558	2,151,434	2,652,293	2,707,245
Non-revenue ²	"	48,113	53,154	57,330	65,377	65,920
Totals ¹	No.	1,511,021	1,888,689	2,289,779	2,717,670	2,773,165
Passenger Miles—						
Revenue.....	No.	474,367,165	585,701,475	679,136,075 ³	791,185,039	869,275,369
Non-revenue ²	"	25,213,468	25,228,048	27,559,456	34,113,939	37,966,498
Totals.....	No.	499,580,633	610,929,523	706,695,531	825,298,978	907,241,867
Freight Carried—						
Revenue ⁴	lb.	42,141,292	53,542,103	133,118,754	175,533,032	107,052,778
Non-revenue.....	"	3,443,521	4,129,524	5,237,779	4,814,274	5,203,365
Totals ⁴	lb.	46,681,194	61,693,191	138,416,758	180,347,306	112,256,143

¹ Exclusive of passengers carried between foreign stations who are included in totals.
² Exclusive of charter services, figures for which are not available.

³ Includes employees
⁴ Exclusive of freight carried between stations which is included in totals.