



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# COVID-19 and Airline Performance in the Asia Pacific region

[version 1; peer review: 2 approved with reservations]

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## Abstract

Health risks associated with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) have severely affected the financial stability of airline companies globally. Recapturing financial stability following this crisis depends heavily on these companies' ability to attain efficient and productive operations. This study uses several empirical approaches to examine key factors contributing to carriers sustaining high productivity prior to, during and after a major recession. Findings suggest, regardless of economic conditions, that social distancing which requires airline companies in the Asia Pacific region to fly with a significant percentage of unfilled seats weakens the performance of those companies. Furthermore, efficient operations do not guarantee the avoidance of productivity declines, especially during a recession.

## Keywords

COVID-19, Airline Performance, Asia Pacific, Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA)



This article is included in the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) collection.

## Open Peer Review

Reviewer Status ? ?

	Invited Reviewers	
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- Anming Zhang**, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
- Yahua Zhang**, University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Australia
- Kevin E. Henrickson**, Gonzaga University, Spokane, United States

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