



**Newcastle™
Airport**

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Media release

Newcastle Airport soars to new heights, breaking previous passenger record

Friday 19 July 2019

With ongoing support from its broad catchment, Newcastle Airport has welcomed a record number of passengers for the fifth consecutive year, with 1.28 million travellers passing through the airport in the 2019 financial year.

Speaking today, Newcastle Airport CEO Dr Peter Cock says the region's continued support was key to its ongoing growth:

"I'd like to thank the region for their continued support. We understand people have a choice of which airport they use, and their support of a local business is appreciated. With our mission being the airport our region deserves, the fact we are seeing continued growth year in, year out, despite a softening of the economy, is a testament to the hard-working group of local people who keep the airport running.

"Providing our residents with a gateway to the world is very important, but so too, is bringing people into our region, which creates jobs and puts more money in the pockets to our local businesses and communities.

"Already the Airport generates around \$1.2Billion in economic benefit for NSW including \$300million directly to the visitor economy.

"Last year we forged ahead, launching our first international route in 16 years. This brought about huge economic benefits for the region with thousands of New Zealanders electing to visit the Hunter – with many staying for more than two weeks.

"With more people than ever flying in and out of our Airport, we're continuing to strengthen demand for increased services and more routes, which ultimately provides wider choices for all.

"In the coming year, we hope to increase the focus on more inbound traffic as we seek to showcase our region to the rest of Australia and the world," Dr Cock said.

Ends.

Further information

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www.newcastleairport.com.au



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Newcastle Airport passenger numbers

| | |
|------|-----------|
| FY15 | 1,143,840 |
| FY16 | 1,179,630 |
| FY17 | 1,257,120 |
| FY18 | 1,272,634 |
| FY19 | 1,277,473 |

Notes for the Editor:

Newcastle Airport <https://www.newcastleairport.com.au/>

Newcastle Airport Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ntlairport/>

Newcastle Airport Twitter Feed: <https://twitter.com/NTLairport>

Newcastle Airport Master Plan: <https://www.newcastleairport.com.au/corporate/about/masterplan>

Astra Aerolab <https://astraerolab.com.au/>

About Newcastle Airport

- > Named 'Major Airport of the Year' at the 2018 Australian Airports Association Industry Awards.
- > Newcastle Airport is the second international gateway into New South Wales and the second busiest airport in the state.
- > Serviced by Jetstar, Virgin Australia, QantasLink, Regional Express, and FlyPelican to eight direct domestic destinations and onward to more than 65 worldwide destinations.
- > Newcastle Airport is the gateway to Australia's largest regional economy, with more than \$43 billion annual output and 48,500 businesses.
- > A significant economic driver, Newcastle Airport contributes more than \$1.16 billion to the state's economy each year. Of this, \$300 million is direct to the visitor economy, supporting over 5,700 full-time employees across tourism and the Airport cluster.
- > On 22 March 2018, Newcastle Airport released its 60-year Master Plan, which includes a 20-year blueprint for growth, projections and business development of the Airport.
- > Newcastle Airport Pty Ltd is jointly owned by City of Newcastle and Port Stephens Council and is governed by an independent, skills-based Board of Directors.
- > FY18/19 passenger results saw Newcastle Airport break its all-time FY record with 1,277,473 travellers passing through the terminal.
- > During National Volunteer Week 2018, Newcastle Airport Ambassador program celebrates 10th anniversary. Over this time, volunteer Ambassadors have collectively donated over 50,000 hours to meet-and-greet over 11.8 million visitors at the Airport.