

Demand for Air Transport in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT The paper seeks to assess the demand for domestic air transport in Nigeria and the factors responsible for it. In particular, it looks at passenger, aircraft and freight traffic and the relative demand for them in the country. The methodology used involved collection of data on passenger, aircraft and cargo movements in Nigeria for the period 1975-2006 to determine the pattern of air travels. Data on macro and micro-economic variables considered to affect demand for air travel were also collected. Multiple regression method was then used to develop models of demand in respect of the three types of movement. The results show that, of the selected variables, Index of Agricultural Production, Index of Manufacturing Production, Gross Domestic Product, Inflationary Rate and Consumer Price Index are important in the explanation of the demand for air transport in Nigeria. The paper suggests that in order to encourage the demand for air travel in Nigeria, there is the need for government to improve the transportation system in the country.