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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**POSITIVE SIGNS FOR PASSENGER NUMBERS**

More than 8.3 million passengers passed through Queensland Airports Limited's (QAL) four airports in the 12 months to July.

While down overall on the previous financial year, Queensland Airports reported growth in passenger numbers across all four airports in May and June 2019, a positive indicator for the year ahead.

Mount Isa Airport recorded strong growth for the full year, with a 5 per cent rise in passenger numbers primarily owing to increased resources activity. The last time passenger numbers reached these levels was in the 2014/15 financial year.

The QAL figure represents a 2.2 per cent dip for the group, which felt the impact of a tightening in airline capacity throughout the year, particularly at Gold Coast Airport – the group's biggest port.

A summary of financial year results is provided in the table below:

| FY19 results            |                  |                  |              |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Airport                 | FY19             | FY18             | Change       |
| Gold Coast              | 6,439,598        | 6,596,784        | -2.4%        |
| Townsville              | 1,631,419        | 1,670,143        | -2.3%        |
| Mount Isa               | 205,682          | 195,799          | 5%           |
| Longreach               | 33,164           | 33,747           | 1.7%         |
| <b>Total passengers</b> | <b>8,309,863</b> | <b>8,496,473</b> | <b>-2.2%</b> |

QAL CEO Chris Mills said while overall numbers were soft for the year, there were some signs of growth ahead.

"We are positive about the year ahead and are working with our airline partners to grow capacity and drive visitation to the regions," he said.

"However, we are conscious that domestic aviation activity across Australia remains subdued."

**ENDS.**

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