



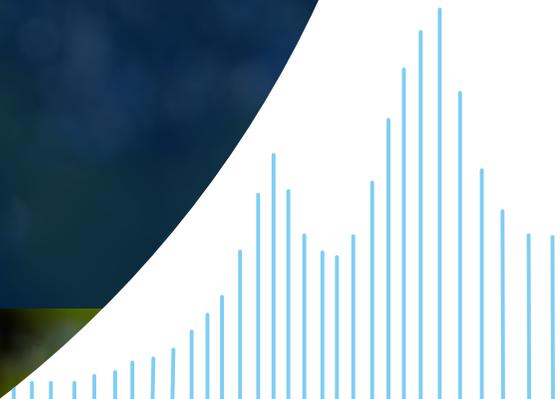
ICCAN

Independent Commission on Civil Aviation Noise

ICCAN Survey

Experiences of aviation noise during lockdown

October 2020



Experiences of aviation noise during lockdown

Covid-19 has had a dramatic effect on the aviation industry and the number of aircraft in the sky. But how do people feel about that, and how might the changes during 'lockdown' have affected their experiences of aviation noise?

ICCAN wanted to find out. So, we decided to conduct an independent survey, using Ipsos MORI, about experiences of aviation noise among people living close to UK airports. You can read the survey report and access the full survey results on [the ICCAN website](#).

We will use the data we collected in this survey to learn more about people's views towards aviation noise as the industry recovers.

Working with Ipsos MORI, we interviewed a representative sample 2,006 adults living around five airports: Heathrow, Manchester, Gatwick, East Midlands and Edinburgh. The survey was conducted between 18 June and 13 July 2020.

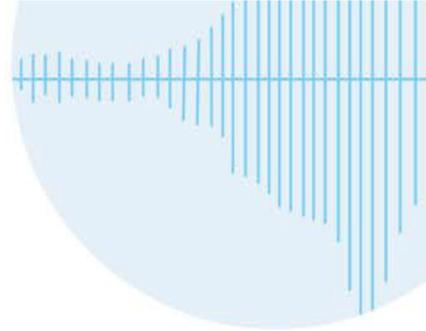
Over 2,000
participants



Living around
five UK airports



Key highlights

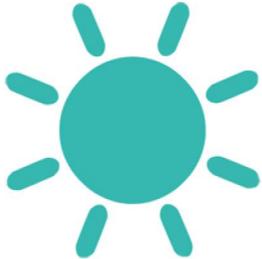


Before lockdown

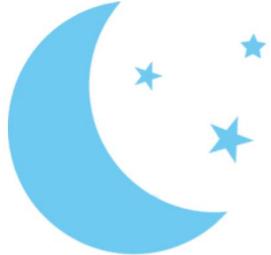
During lockdown

92% surveyed said they could hear aeroplane noise from where they live 

86% reported hearing less aviation noise 

66% were bothered by aviation noise during the day and evening (between 7am and 11pm) 

61% had not noticed any changes to flight paths 

44% were bothered during the night (between 11pm and 7am) 

13% were bothered during the night (between 11pm and 7am) 

Key highlights

Of those surveyed, those bothered by aviation noise during the day and evening fell from 66% before lockdown to 28% during.

Before lockdown, younger age groups were less likely to hear aviation noise than older groups. Almost half of those aged 35 to 54 (48%) and those aged 55 or older (48%) were more likely to hear a lot of aeroplane noise, compared with just 35% of 18 to 34-year olds. Where they did hear aviation noise, 18 to 34-year-olds were less bothered by it than older groups.

48% of respondents agreed that they do not mind if aviation noise goes back to what it was before lockdown, while 38% disagreed.

66% of respondents agreed that the environment should be given higher priority than supporting the recovery of the aviation industry, while only 15% disagreed.

Those in the younger group were more likely to agree that the environment should be given higher priority than the recovery of the aviation industry (72% of 18 to 34-year olds vs. 62% of 35 to 54-year olds and 65% of 55+ year olds).

Next steps

In time, people will be flying again in greater numbers, which means more aircraft will return to the skies and, with that, more noise.

Tracking people's views about the impact of noise on them will be crucial in building a sustainable recovery, where noise and its effects are at the heart of decisions about aviation.

We plan to repeat the survey in the future, as numbers of flights increase.





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