

OAC Health & Safety Report

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1. "Environmental Noise and the Cardiovascular System," Thomas Munzel, et. al, of the American College of Cardiology, Volume 71, Issue 6, February 2018. The study found that people exposed to frequent loud noise, such as aircraft, tend to have higher rates of heart failure, high blood pressure, irregular heart rhythms, high cholesterol, and high blood sugar.
2. "Block 1 Procedure Recommendations For Logan Airport Community Noise Reduction," John R. Hansman, MIT International Center for Air Transportation, Report No. ICAT-2017-08, December 2017. MIT researchers found that slowing the speed of departing aircraft by 34 miles per hour would reduce noise. From the report, "The benefits from reducing departure speed occur from the initial climb thrust cutback point approximately 5 miles from departure to the point where the aircraft reaches 10,000 ft. This noise reduction occurs primarily underneath the centerline of the departure flight track, which is where the RNAV track concentration effects are most pronounced."
3. "Quantas Worst Airline Operating Across Pacific for CO2 Emissions, Analysis Reveals" Michael Slezak, The Guardian, January 16, 2018. The International Council on Clean Transportation found that "for each kilometer traveled across the Pacific, Quantas used 64% more fuel than the two most fuel-efficient airlines that operate across the Pacific: Hainan Airlines and All Nipon Airways." The measure was based on the type of aircraft used and how full the aircraft were, either in terms of passengers or cargo. Quantas used less efficient aircraft and had more empty seats than other carriers.
4. "Get Ready for an Electric Liftoff", Andy Ouriel, Sandusky Register, January 19, 2018. Engineers are working to develop electrical equipment that can fully power commercial aircraft, which would reduce emissions, burn less fuel and noise pollution. NASA wants to begin airborne experiments with electric motors by 2023, and want electric systems in passenger flights by 2035.