

## RECOVERY TRACKER

# More flights, but decline in vehicle registrations

Power generation was higher than in the previous week

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Some high-frequency indicators of economic activity showed an uptick in the latest week.

The vehicle registration gap over the pre-pandemic vehicle registrations widened last week. There were 294,145 registrations during the week ending August 21. This is 31.6 per cent lower than the 429,920 registrations seen during the same period in 2019. The gap was 2.54 per cent over the previous week (see chart 1).

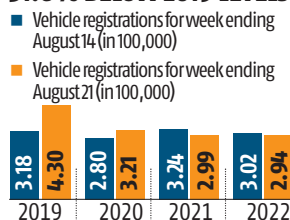
More passengers caught flights. There was also a rise in the number of daily flights. There were around 348,592 passengers on average in the last seven days of the week. The flights numbered 2,645. The numbers showed a rising trend amid a string of holidays including Independence Day on Monday (see chart 2).

Retail and recreation visits were 15.4 per cent higher than they were before the pandemic took hold. Search engine Google tracks how people are moving during the pandemic using anonymised location data. Workplace visits showed a decline amid multiple public holidays during the previous week (see chart 3).

The Indian Railways recorded lower growth in the quantity of goods carried. It grew at 4.47 per cent for the latest week compared to 6.37 per cent previously. The amount of money it made from carrying these goods, called freight revenue, was up 17.86 per cent in the latest week compared to 19.23 per cent previously (see chart 4).

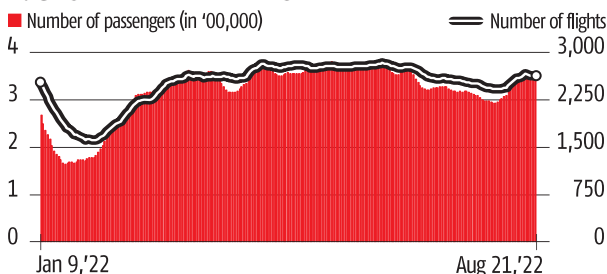
Power generation in the country inched up last week and the gap over 2019 levels widened due to higher generation. The power

### 1: VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS 31.6% BELOW 2019 LEVELS



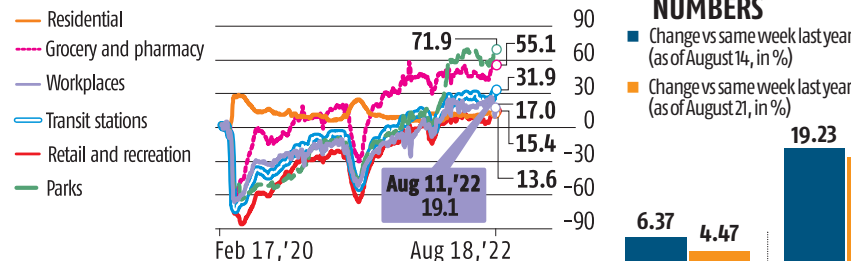
Note: Based on road transport offices (RTOs) for which Vahan data is available. Source: Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

### 2: GROWTH IN AIR TRAFFIC



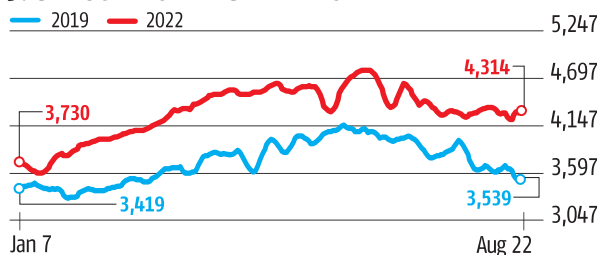
Note: Shows 7-day rolling average numbers for domestic traffic based on departing flights and passengers. Averages have been used wherever archival data was unavailable. Source: Ministry of Civil Aviation

### 3: DECLINE IN WORKPLACE VISITS



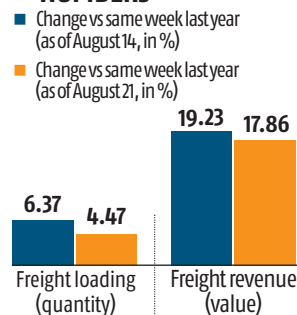
Note: Latest update is as of August 10, 2022, based on location data as processed by the company. The percentage change is compared to a baseline value for the same day of the week, calculated on a median basis during the 5-week period, Jan 3–Feb 6, 2020. The chart shows a seven-day rolling average of visits to each category. Residential data refers to change in time spent at home. Source: Google LLC "Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports", Our World In Data

### 5: UPTICK IN POWER GENERATION



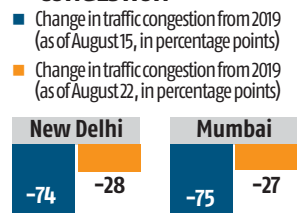
Note: Power generation based on reporting day data (million units, 7-day rolling average) Source: National Load Despatch Centre

### 4: LOWER FREIGHT NUMBERS



Note: For seven days ending Sunday. Source: Indian Railways

### 6: DROP IN TRAFFIC CONGESTION



Note: Refers to change in Monday (9 am) traffic congestion. Comparison made to 2019 levels. Source: TomTom International

producers generated 4,314 million units (MUs) of electricity per day on average in the latest week. It was 4,299 MUs per day in the previous week. In comparison, power generation was 3,539 MUs per day during the corresponding week in 2019 (see chart 5).

Monday 9 am traffic congestion saw a major increase,

according to data from global location technology firm TomTom International. New Delhi traffic congestion was down 28 per cent compared to 2019. Mumbai traffic was down 27 per cent (see chart 6).

Business Standard tracks these indicators as a way of getting a weekly picture of how the economy is doing.

Such high-frequency indicators help understand how the economy is reacting to the pandemic, and the impact of various government efforts to control its effects.

The Google data is released with a lag. The latest is as of August 18. The traffic data is as of Monday, August 21. All other data is as of Sunday.