

RECOVERY TRACKER

Workplace visits up 26%, vehicle registrations 2%

Fewer flights and air passengers in the latest week compared to the previous one

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Multiple weekly economic activity indicators trended higher during the latest week.

Workplace visits were 25.9 per cent higher than the baseline value for early 2020, before the pandemic took hold, shows data from search engine Google. It uses anonymised location data to track how people are moving during the pandemic. Retail and recreation visits were lower than the previous week. Grocery and pharmacy visits grew (see chart 1).

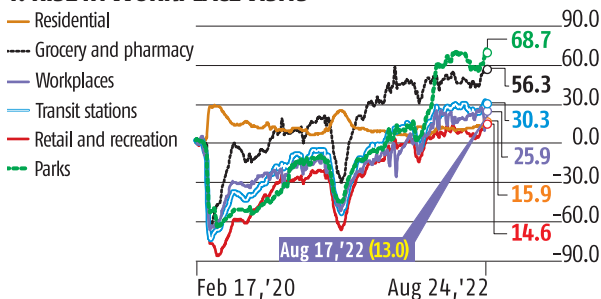
People registered 395,000 vehicles. This is 2.1 per cent higher than the 386,000 vehicles registered in the same period in 2019. The number also showed a week-on-week increase. There were 293,000 vehicles registered in the previous week (see chart 2).

The Indian Railways registered a 7.3 per cent increase in the quantity of goods carried. The amount of money it made from carrying these goods, called freight revenue, was up 16.1 per cent (see chart 3).

Electricity consumption in the country rose last week and the gap over 2019 levels widened due to higher generation. The power producers generated 4,517 million units (MU) of electricity per day on average in the latest week based on reporting day data. It was 4,314 MUs per day in the previous week. In comparison, power generation was 3,807 MUs per day during the corresponding week in 2019 (see chart 4).

Major metros recorded a fall in traffic congestion. Monday 9 am traffic congestion in New Delhi was 36 per cent lower than 2019, compared to the 28 per cent gap seen in the previous week. Mumbai traffic congestion was down 32 per

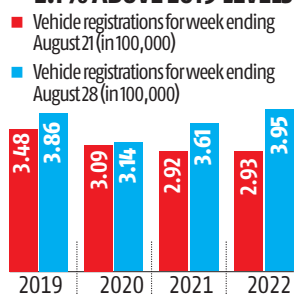
1: RISE IN WORKPLACE VISITS



Note: Latest update is as of August 24, 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.

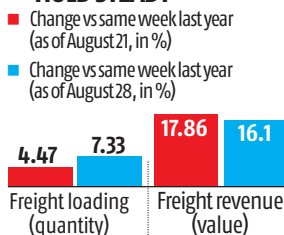
Source: Google LLC "Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports", Our World In Data

2: VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS 2.1% ABOVE 2019 LEVELS



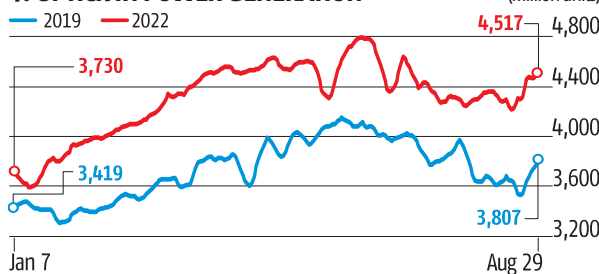
Note: Based on road transport offices (RTOs) for which Vahan data is available. Source: Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

3: FREIGHT NUMBERS HOLD STEADY



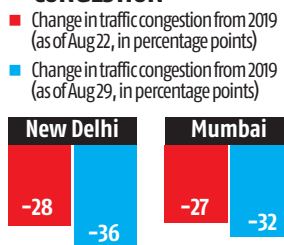
Note: For seven days ending Sunday. Source: Indian Railways

4: UPTICK IN POWER GENERATION



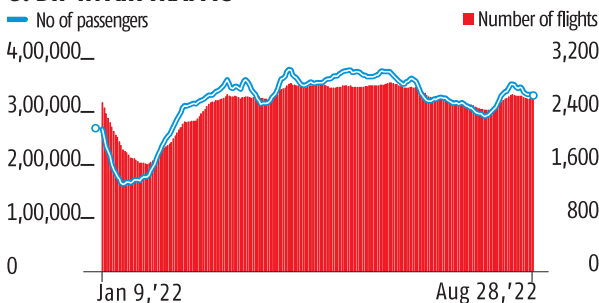
Note: Power generation based on reporting day data (million units, 7-day rolling average). Source: National Load Despatch Centre

5: DROP IN TRAFFIC CONGESTION



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

6: DIP 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

cent compared to the previous week's 27 per cent gap (see chart 5). There were fewer flights and passengers in the latest week than before. The average number of daily flights dropped to 2,597 from 2,637 in the previous week. The average number of daily

passengers fell to 331,000 from 347,000 (see chart 6).

Business Standard tracks these indicators as a way of getting a weekly picture of the economy ahead of official macroeconomic data, which is often released with a lag. Analysts globally have been

tracking similar indicators. It presents a more up-to-date picture of how the economy is reacting to the effects of the pandemic. The Google data is released with a lag. The latest is as of August 24. Traffic data is as of Monday 9 am. All other data is as of Sunday, August 28.