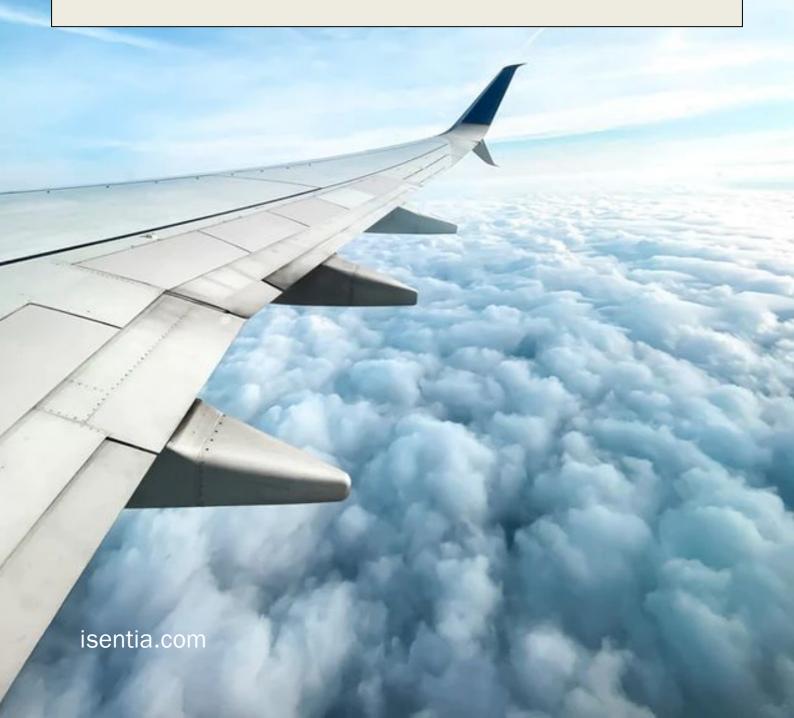


# TRENDSPOTTING STUDY Flying In: The Airlines Industry Amid The Pandemic In Indonesia



# **Onboarding With The Latest Trends**

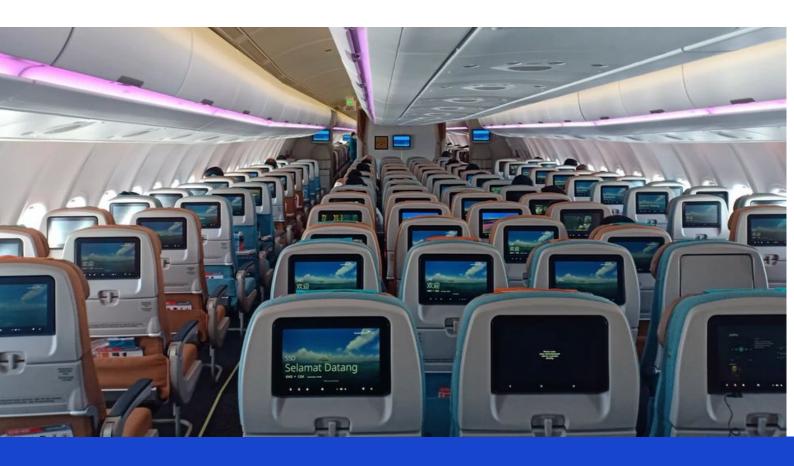
This report aims to provide the airlines industry with an understanding of the consumers' behaviors focusing on the how the industry keep surviving and growing amid the COVID-19 pandemic based on people's conversation on different social media platforms with 23,174 total buzz.

In terms of media type, this report includes materials from:

### Social

- Twitter
- Facebook
- Blogs
- Forums

The date range for this study is the month of April 2021.





# What's Flying Around in Social Media?

### **Forging On And Flying High**

The national aviation business is trying to rise from its downturn amid the Covid-19 pandemic that has not (yet) ended. Selling cheap tickets is an option to persuade people to want to fly again.

This has attracted the enthusiasm, excitement, and interest from the pockets of many netizens in social media.









# Buzzin' Like Bees

### **Peeping Through The Points of Discussions**

Airlines alike are competing to offer attractive and interesting promos. Discounts, cashbacks, promo codes and bank promos are everywhere, but most are only available for a limited time, like on certain days or at certain hours.

Listening to online conversations is the best way to grab a travel deal and for airlines to capture consumers' interests and buying power.











# See You On The Screens!



### **Going Virtual Is The New Normal**

Forget going to the mall to see travel fairs, now consumers can visit these events via their gadget's screens. Indonesia's national airline, Garuda Indonesia, offered its promos through 'Garuda Indonesia Online Travel Fair'. In fact, the virtual fair has attracted high enthusiasm from netizens. This is good practice other airlines can leverage on in future marketing initiatives.



# "Negative" Is The New Positive

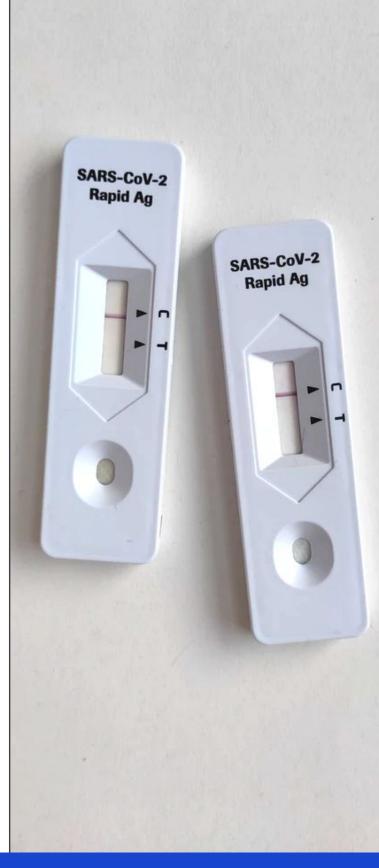
### No Virus, More Fun

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, undergoing a Rapid Test or PCR test and being declared free of the corona virus is a must for airplane passengers.

Several airlines levelled-up their game by offering hassle-free flying experience through the provision of free COVID-19 test for their passengers, which even travel agencies can use in marketing efforts.









# Swab It Like It's Hot







### How can you get your free Antigen Test Package while ordering your ticket?

Here are some tips:

- 1. Ensure your flight route provides Free Antigen Test service
- 2. Exchange your Antigen Test coupon at Valid / Specified Outlets
- 3. Pay attention to the Terms and Conditions that apply
- 4. Keep an eye on the latest updates on social media





# **Are You Really Listening?**

The slogan 'Ingat Pesan Ibu', which began as a campaign in early October 2020, is one of the government's efforts to break the chain of spreading COVID-19 and invite people to adhere to health protocols.

In social media, the implementation of health protocols has become one of the concerns of netizens when traveling on an airplane.

In fact, there are still many people who ignore the protocols. Moving forward, airlines and travel agencies should ensure that health protocols are strictly adhered by passengers to encourage consumers to trust the safety of flights and overall travel experience.



Livery ini mengampanyekan orang banyak utk taat protokol kesehatan. Dan kenyataannya di lapangan, memang @IndonesiaGaruda sangat concern terhadap prokes.

Sudah 13x saya terbang dgn GA d 2021, saya tetap merasa aman 😝



8:13 PM · Apr 14, 2021 from Soekarno-Hatta International Airport (CGK) · Twitter for iPhone





# **But First, Flying Prerequisites**

Airline companies have the commitment to provide the best health and safety protocol implementation standards during the pandemic. Some positive response and appreciation from netizens on social media are addressed to some health protocols which were applied.

User generated content can be leveraged by airlines and banner the testimonials of passengers to encourage future travellers to both comply with protocols, and also trust the safety and convenience offered by aviation industry players.



Temperature Checks



Negative COVID-19 Certificate Requirement



Seating Arrangement



Wearing Face Masks



# Missing Your Homecoming? Safety First!

### **Mixed Feelings: To Comply or Not To Comply**

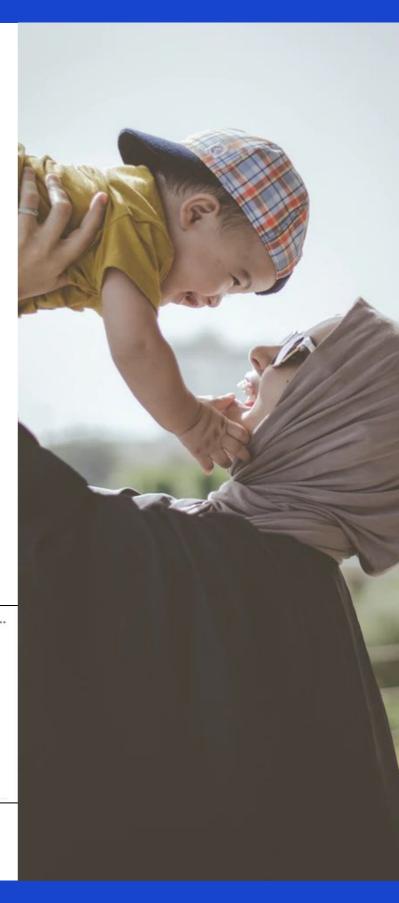
The government has decided to prohibit people from going to their hometowns for this year's Eid al-Fitr. This decision was followed by a policy to ban transportation modes including air transportation from operating in the period 6-17 May 2021.

In fact, 'Mudik' (returning to hometown) has become a routine activity every year for Indonesians during Eid al-Fitr. The prohibition policy raised negative sentiments dominantly against the government in conversations on social media platforms. But also received mixed reviews with netizens supporting the initiative to prioritize safety.



Kementerian perhubungan menegaskan bahwa bandara tetap di buka pada masa pelarangan mudik,tapi hanya di khususkan untuk penerbangan pengangkutan logistik pangan dan pengiriman paket ekspedisi yang harus menggunakan pesawat terbang, sedangkan pesawat terbang komersial di larang

10:14 AM · Apr 30, 2021 · Twitter for Android





# The Politics of Flight

### **Politicizing The Yardstick**

Negatively responding to the prohibition, many netizens viewed that it is "unfair" and an "unwise" policy as well tagging the prohibition of mass transportation to operate as a political issue. In addition, the government is considered to be "indecisive" and has no anticipatory steps, according to the digital public.













# A Paused Departure, A Halted Arrival

### **Negative vs Positive: Support Comes In Different Directions**

While there are strong negative sentiments against the policy as netizens respond based on emotional context (i.e. not seeing families), some were also quick to highlight their support to the government policy in order to break the spreading of COVID-19 virus, suggesting online celebrations instead. Airlines can use this opportunity to use content about bridging families to encourage them to fly once the pandemic declines.











# Missing Your Homecoming? Safety First!

### **Buckle Up For Safety**

Several airlines were also seen in social media openly stating their support to the government's prohibition policy. Their support was seen by netizens as a form of their commitment to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus.







# The Customer Experience is King

### **Customized** For Curated and **Customer**

The transformation of business to digital is one of the efforts airlines need to take a cue from to survive in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Promotions, while these attract the eyes and ears of the general public, the extra precautions related to the pandemic has given birth to different needs and safety measure as people take the courage to go out, let alone take flights.

Airlines need to leverage on the evolving needs of the market and adapting to personalized packages create that COVID-19 includes tests. accommodations in quarantine facilities and safe hotels, COVID-19 essentials ( sanitizers), even health masks, equipment, including the opportunity to purchase seats so they can socially themselves from other distance passengers.





# "Personalized Promotion" Is The Way To Go

A personalized promotion can entice netizens to take that step in travelling again, while making safety a priority. Airlines can also provide the convenience of rescheduling/ rebooking these flights depending on restrictions and policies that may be implemented at a given time. This is to secure the trust of the buying public that the airlines prioritize compliance with the government's initiatives.







# Fam First, Flying Later

### **Focus On What Matters: Family Is Everything**

Negative reactions against the prohibition policy on returning to one's hometown indicates the society's longing need to meet with their families. The momentum could be an incredible opportunity for brands, airlines, and travel agencies to create family-related campaigns and content, including making the most out of holidays that the family has been missing out on a face-to-face level.

Furthermore, any brand, airline, or travel agency could offer promo packages for family reunions after the government lifts the prohibition policy. This rides on the messaging that the family is the top priority among Indonesians, and Indonesian companies.





# The Best Kind of Wealth Is Better Known As Health

### **Patronizing The Right Priorities**

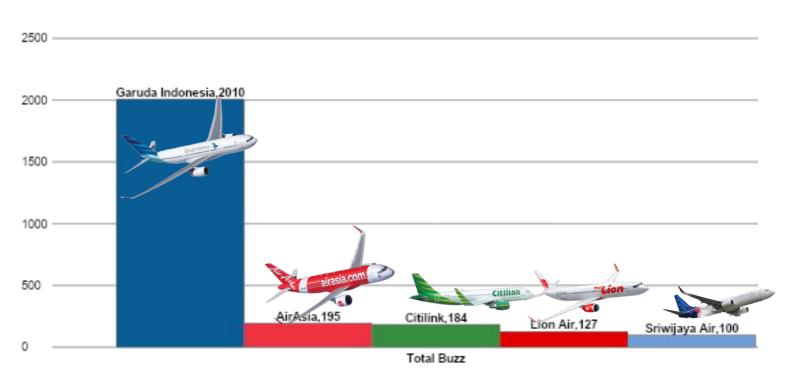
There is a rising concern on the implementation of health protocols in public transportation including air transportation among netizens, which airlines need to listen to on a regular basis. While it is already mandatory for airlines to apply strict health protocols, listening to the discussions of would-be travellers, and highly interested consumers will give Indonesian airline a better understanding of the demands of their target consumers.

Netizens' concerns are a good source of feedback for airlines to be able to make better business decisions and could be opportunities to offer and tweak the different premium services that add value to make customers feel more comfortable and safe on board. While the message is that first wealth is health, listening to specific concerns of the digital public can allow for better marketing, branding, and public relations to beef up the challenging times of the airline industry.



# Airlines Flying the Highest on Social Media

### Which airline carriers led the conversations on social media?







# What Our Insights Leaders In Indonesia Say



### Yudha Prawira, Insights Manager, Indonesia

"The aviation industry is still surviving in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic by carrying out various strategies including consistency in implementing health protocols. Even so, it is necessary to have a long-term strategy that must be implemented for airline companies to be able to maintain their existence in the industry."

### **Rendy Ezra Mangara**, Research Manager, Indonesia

"The implementation of health protocols is not an option, however it has been mandatory for airlines to keep maintaining their existence amid the pandemic and create the innovative ways to attract more passengers and make them feel comfort while flying."



## Jessica Aditya, Senior Insights Analyst, Indonesia

"The aviation industry is facing great disruption caused by mobility restrictions during Covid-19 pandemic. To survive and recover, airlines have to quickly adapt to the changing needs of passengers. Keeping tabs on what people say or think through social media could provide insights for the industry to take the appropriate strategies."

# **øisentia**

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us for more information on this whitepaper.

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