

**Reserve Review: Reserve Pool Minimum Levels**  
 MEC Reserve Committee

The “Minimum Level” (LVL) shown in the Reserve pool is defined as the minimum number of Reserves the company has determined to be necessary for each operational day at a given base or sub-base once all known open assignments have been covered. Generally, these numbers will be set highest on the first several and last several days of the bid month, as well as around any holidays (3). Throughout the rest of the month, numbers are generally set the lowest on weekdays (1), while weekend days see levels set slightly higher (2). To illustrate, here are the general population (FA) Reserve pool numbers for ORD at the end of July.

19 <u>OFF</u>	20	21	22	23	24	25 <u>OFFT</u>
RSV 362 OPN 1 NET 361 LVL 70 RST - TOT 291	RSV 567 OPN 0 NET 567 LVL 60 RST - TOT 507	RSV 588 OPN 1 NET 587 LVL 60 RST - TOT 527	RSV 570 OPN 1 NET 569 LVL 60 RST - TOT 509	RSV 511 OPN 1 NET 510 LVL 60 RST - TOT 450	RSV 385 OPN 0 NET 385 LVL 60 RST - TOT 325	RSV 377 OPN 3 NET 374 LVL 70 RST - TOT 304
26 <u>OFFT</u>	27	28	29	30	31	1
RSV 429 OPN 4 NET 425 LVL 70 RST - TOT 355	RSV 478 OPN 3 NET 475 LVL 80 RST - TOT 395	RSV 570 OPN 0 NET 570 LVL 80 RST - TOT 490	RSV 570 OPN 0 NET 570 LVL 80 RST - TOT 490	RSV 550 OPN 0 NET 550 LVL 80 RST - TOT 470	RSV 0 OPN 13 NET -13 LVL 0 RST - TOT -13	RSV 0 OPN 5 NET -5 LVL 0 RST - TOT -5

From month to month, these numbers can fluctuate based on the amount of flying assigned to the base or sub-base, along with considerations for typical weather patterns, holidays, etc. For example, levels may be set higher in summer months to match the increased flight schedule, then lower in the fall and winter months when the flight schedule decreases.

With the significant reduction in flying over the past few months due to the reduced demand for air travel in the wake of COVID-19, we have seen the minimum Reserve levels set significantly lower than what has been historically typical. As flying gradually returns to meet rising demand, it should be expected that the minimum Reserve levels will likewise increase. Such was the case for the July bid month when compared to June. Using the ORD-FA base as an example, the minimum Reserve level was set at 35 for the end of June. Then, at the beginning of July, the level rose to 80, corresponding to the amount of flying assigned to the base, which had doubled from the previous month.

If you have additional questions regarding the minimum Reserve levels that have been set at your location or if you note levels that seem drastically out of sync with the amount of scheduled flying, expected weather, etc., please contact your Local Council Reserve Committee.