



Above the Clouds

A Study of the Flying Industry

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Abstract

When flying, often we wonder what it would be like to be in the cockpit, to be flying the airplane. We imagine ourselves as the pilot, holding the control yoke and listening to the Air Traffic Controller give us directions. What we never think about is what that pilot is earning for doing all of those things. This work delves deep into the flying industry to look at not just pilot salaries, but at the salaries of the Air Traffic Controllers that keep the planes from colliding in mid-air as well.

Three tests are run to compare different aspects of salaries: the size of the jet versus the salary, the revenue of the airline versus the salary it pays its pilots, and the salary of a pilot versus the salary of an Air Traffic Controller.