



The 2025 USA Flight Disruption Report

Insights on delays, cancellations, and passenger rights

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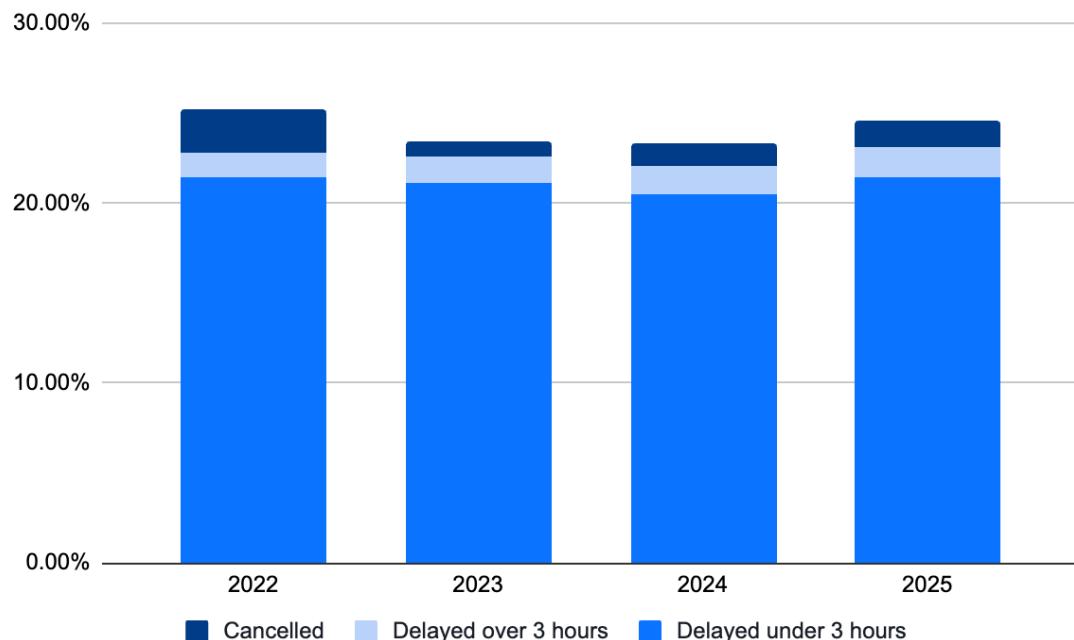
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Trends

Delays and cancellations continue to climb: **25% of US passengers** faced a disruption last year

Flight numbers didn't grow much in the US last year, but disruptions went up all the same. In total over **1 billion passengers** flew from a US airport last year, over **23% had a delay**, and almost **1.5% faced a cancellation**.

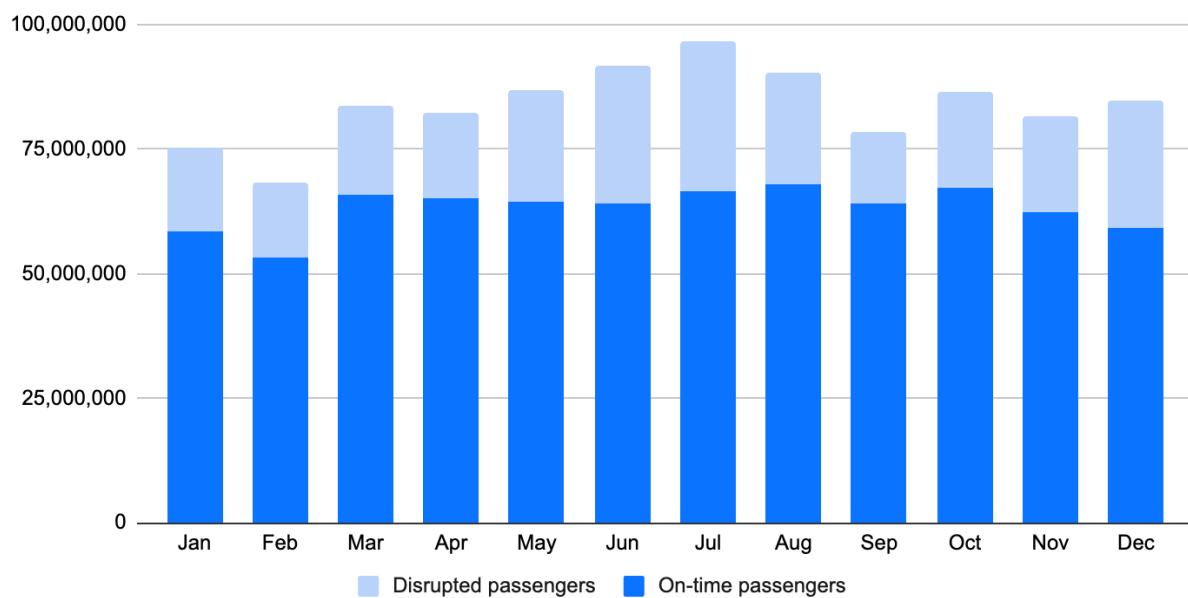


	Total passengers	Delayed under 3 hours	Delayed over 3 hours	Cancelled	Total disrupted
2022	877,000,000	187,900,000	11,800,000	21,900,000	221,600,000
2023	960,000,000	202,600,000	14,400,000	7,600,000	224,600,000
2024	1,002,000,000	205,500,000	15,800,000	12,800,000	234,100,000
2025	1,007,000,000	215,900,000	17,300,000	14,300,000	247,500,000

Disruptions by month

July 2025 was the worst month for US passengers

Flight disruptions increased over the busier summer months, peaking with over 31% of passengers in July facing either a delay or cancellation. 2025 also ended with a lot of disruptions, December was the 3rd most disrupted month overall.



Passengers by month

	Passengers	% disrupted
Jan	75,240,000	22%
Feb	68,430,000	22%
Mar	83,860,000	21%
Apr	82,200,000	21%
May	87,020,000	26%
Jun	91,650,000	30%
Jul	96,780,000	31%
Aug	90,260,000	25%
Sep	78,550,000	18%
Oct	86,450,000	22%
Nov	81,700,000	24%
Dec	84,890,000	30%

Best days to fly

Date	% on-time passengers
Tue, 28 Jan	92%
Wed, 15 Jan	92%
Tue, 30 Sep	91%
Wed, 26 Feb	91%
Tue, 4 Feb	90%

Worst days to fly

Date	% disrupted passengers
Sun, 9 Nov	50%
Sun, 30 Nov	48%
Sun, 16 Mar	47%
Mon, 6 Jan	46%
Sun, 16 Feb	45%

Some of the biggest flight disruptions of 2025

US Government Shutdown Triggered Widespread Airport Delays

A prolonged US federal government shutdown (October 1–November 12) strained FAA operations and worsened air traffic control staffing shortages. Flight volumes were reduced for safety, resulting in extensive delays and the cancellation of 32% of flights departing from the U.S. during this period.

Mid-July Thunderstorms Cause Widespread Flight Delays and Cancellations Across U.S. Airports

On 14 July, severe thunderstorms across the East Coast and Central U.S. disrupted summer travel, causing over 8,800 flight delays and more than 1,600 cancellations at major airports. Airports affected include JFK, LaGuardia, Newark, Philadelphia, Boston Logan, Denver, and Washington, D.C., with some ground delays lasting more than three hours.

Winter Storm Blair Caused Severe Disruptions to U.S. Air Travel

In early January 2025, Winter Storm Blair disrupted U.S. air travel across the Central Plains, Midwest, and Mid-Atlantic, causing over 9,500 flight delays and 2,300 cancellations on one day alone. Major airports affected included Washington D.C.'s Reagan National, Baltimore, and Dulles, as well as Chicago O'Hare and St. Louis Lambert, with some airports reporting triple-digit cancellations.

Disruptions by airport

Chicago O'Hare was the most delayed airport, **Newark Liberty** had the most disruptions overall.

The USA's busiest airport was Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson, serving over 52 million passengers in 2025. A respectable 74% of those passengers took off on time, but it's Honolulu who takes the title of the USA's most on-time airport, with 84% of departures taking off as planned.

Airport	Departing passengers	% on time	% delayed	% cancelled
Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson	52,076,000	74%	25%	1.1%
Chicago O'Hare	41,292,000	71%	28%	1.3%
Denver	40,177,000	73%	27%	0.9%
Los Angeles	35,430,000	80%	19%	1.0%
New York JFK	30,554,000	73%	25%	1.6%
Orlando	27,622,000	74%	25%	1.3%
Las Vegas	27,413,000	77%	22%	1.2%
Miami	26,693,000	73%	26%	1.2%
Phoenix Sky Harbor	26,216,000	78%	21%	1.0%
San Francisco	26,155,000	79%	21%	0.7%
Seattle-Tacoma	24,885,000	76%	23%	0.9%
Houston George Bush	23,796,000	76%	23%	1.3%
Newark Liberty	23,598,000	71%	26%	2.7%
Boston Logan	21,973,000	74%	24%	1.9%

Minneapolis-St. Paul	17,940,000	78%	21%	0.8%
New York LaGuardia	17,115,000	71%	26%	2.6%
Detroit Metro	17,064,000	77%	22%	1.1%
Fort Lauderdale	15,887,000	74%	24%	2.1%
Philadelphia	15,021,000	73%	26%	1.6%
Washington Dulles	14,011,000	74%	25%	1.2%
Nashville	13,922,000	76%	23%	1.1%
Baltimore/Washington	13,681,000	75%	24%	1.2%
Washington Ronald Reagan	13,623,000	71%	26%	3.0%
Salt Lake City	13,559,000	82%	18%	0.7%
San Diego	13,100,000	76%	23%	0.9%
Tampa	12,796,000	75%	23%	1.7%
Austin-Bergstrom	11,717,000	76%	24%	0.9%
Honolulu	10,628,000	84%	16%	0.4%
Chicago Midway	10,296,000	75%	24%	1.1%

The best and worst routes for 2025

Chicago to Frankfurt, Germany is the USA's most delayed flight: **46%** of passengers didn't take off on time.

10 most on-time routes in 2025

On-time routes	Total passengers	% on time
Honolulu (HNL) to Tokyo Narita (NRT)	363,000	95%
Miami (MIA) to Panama City Tocumen (PTY)	405,000	90%
Honolulu (HNL) to Hilo (ITO)	741,000	90%
Honolulu (HNL) to Kahului (OGG)	1,255,000	89%
Hilo (ITO) to Honolulu (HNL)	742,000	89%
Honolulu (HNL) to Kauai Lihue (LIH)	925,000	89%
Honolulu (HNL) to Keahole Airport (KOA)	872,000	89%
Kahului (OGG) to Honolulu (HNL)	1,258,000	88%
Los Angeles (LAX) to Salt Lake City (SLC)	516,000	88%
Kona (KOA) to Honolulu (HNL)	872,000	88%

5 most delayed routes

Delayed routes	Total passengers	% delayed
Chicago O'Hare (ORD) to Frankfurt (FRA)	331,000	46%
Washington Dulles (IAD) to Frankfurt (FRA)	327,000	43%
Miami International Airport (MIA) to São Paulo Guarulhos (GRU)	445,000	40%
Washington Dulles (IAD) to Newark Liberty (EWR)	241,000	39%
New York JFK (JFK) to Dubai (DXB)	300,000	39%

5 most cancelled routes

Cancelled routes	Total passengers	% cancelled
Tampa (TPA) to Fort Lauderdale (FLL)	228,000	10%
Fort Lauderdale (FLL) to Tampa (TPA)	225,000	9%
Houston George Bush (IAH) to Monterrey (MTY)	218,000	6%
Newark Liberty (EWR) to Toronto Pearson (YYZ)	294,000	6%
New York JFK (JFK) to Tel Aviv (TLV)	276,000	6%