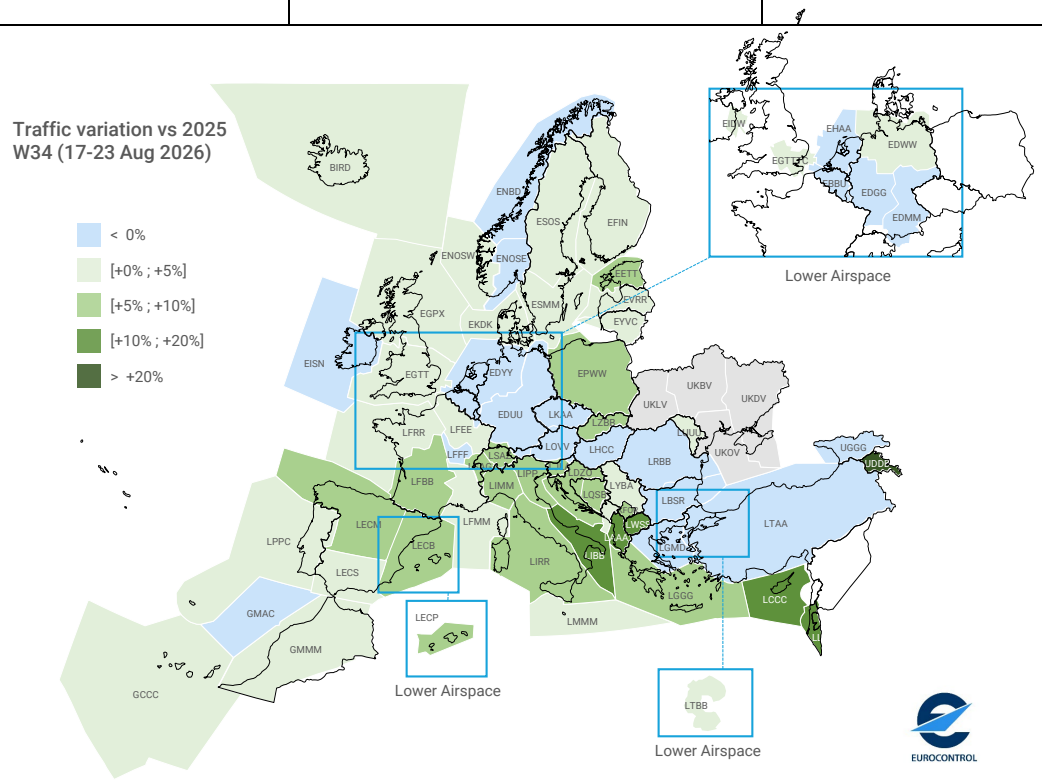
EUROCONTROL Flash Briefing

Week 34 (17-23 August 2026) – Network Performance

26 August 2026

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Traffic	ATFM delays	Arrival punctuality
36,372 daily flights **+0.5%** vs the previous week **+2.5%** vs 2025	**3.44** min/flight **2.71** en-route **0.74** airport	**72%**



SUMMER TO DATE (1 JUNE - 23 AUGUST 2026)

Traffic	ATFM delays	Arrival punctuality
+2.3% vs 2025	**-19%** vs 2025	**+1.6 pp** vs 2025

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK

Category	Key figures	Situation Overview
Traffic	36,372 daily flights +2.5% vs 2025	• Traffic distribution is still influenced by the Middle East crisis, with lower traffic in Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Türkiye, but a high increase in traffic in Albania, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia – and continuous growth in south-west Europe. • ATFM delay constraints experienced at Marseille, Athens, Barcelona ACCs due to capacity/staffing issues and Karlsruhe UAC due to some severe weather impacts. • The application of capacity and weather-based operations (CWBO) procedures and related scenarios continues in response to strong weather phenomena. Approximately 2.8 million minutes of en-route ATFM delays have now been saved to date through the application of these updated procedures. **Network hot spots** • France (32% of all en-route delays in the network year to date (YTD), of which 11% attributed to Marseille, 8% to Reims and 6% to Brest area control centres (ACCs)): affected by ongoing capacity, staffing and 4-FLIGHT transition issues. This has been compounded by increasing weather delays; despite this, average en-route delays are 31% lower for 2026 YTD compared to 2025 YTD. • Spain (17% of all en-route delays in the network YTD, of which 11% attributed to Barcelona ACC): affected mostly by capacity, staffing issues and high traffic growth; average en-route delays are 12% higher for 2026 YTD compared to 2025 YTD. • Greece (12% of all en-route delays in the network YTD, of which 7% attributed to Athens ACC): affected mostly by capacity and staffing issues, with additional complexity due to traffic demand related to the Middle East crisis; average en-route delays are 59% higher for 2026 YTD compared to 2025 YTD.
ATFM delays	3.44 minutes per flight: • 2.71 mins/flight en-route air traffic flow management (ATFM) delays • 0.73 mins/flight airport ATFM delays +11% vs the previous week • +7% vs 2025 A total of 55,062 flights were delayed by air traffic flow management (ATFM) restrictions, an average of 7,866 flights a day and 22% of all flights.	
Arrival punctuality	Down 2.6 percentage points vs Week 33 to 72%, worse than last year by 2.6 percentage points.	
Departure punctuality	Down 1.0 percentage points vs Week 33 to 66%, worse than last year by 1.0 percentage points.	

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Network Operations Plan (NOP) delivery

- With 1.4% YTD traffic growth, average en-route ATFM delay for 2026 YTD is 18% better than 2025 YTD, with good delivery by the vast majority of air navigation service providers (ANSPs), and with the perspective of being 24% better by the end of the year compared to all of 2025.
- The main issues related to delivery against the NOP for Week 34 concerned Marseille East and Barcelona ACCs.
- Despite some persistent hotspots, overall improvements are being seen to delays compared to 2025 in Austria, Croatia, France, Germany and Hungary when compared to the NOP.
- Barcelona, Bordeaux and Marseille ACCs will need to revise their plans to align with the NOP for the upcoming weeks.
- NOP delivery remains critical up to the end of August, with significant traffic growth continuing to be expected, and traffic peaks around or over 37,500 flights on Fridays.
- Week 34 saw once more new traffic records set that beat ones set in previous weeks, as Armenia and Yerevan Zvartnost airport recorded their highest-ever traffic in terms of daily arrivals/departures, and Ryanair set a new high for the network of flights operated (3,985 on 21 August 2026, beating their previous record of 3,958 flights on 30 June 2026).
- **Weather**
    - CWBO procedures and related scenarios have been applied since the beginning of May 2026 to manage strong weather phenomena across the network. Approximately 2.8 million minutes of en-route ATFM delays have now been saved to date, with the updated procedures applied now in total to approximately 9,400 flights.
- **Industrial action/Other**
    - Industrial action by Norway ATC generated approximately 14,500 minutes of ATFM delay and approximately 150 flights were cancelled.

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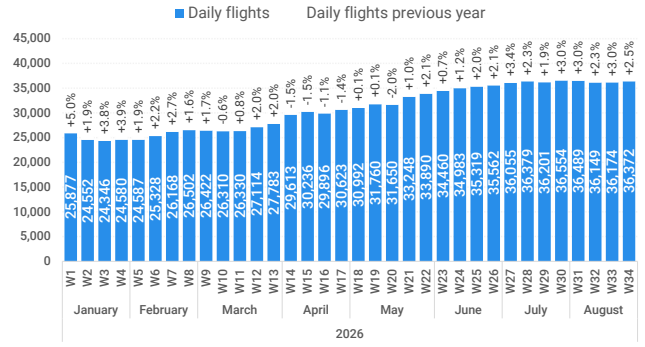
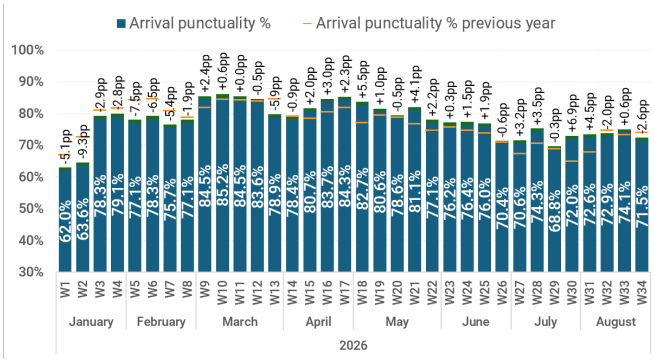
ROLLING OVERVIEW

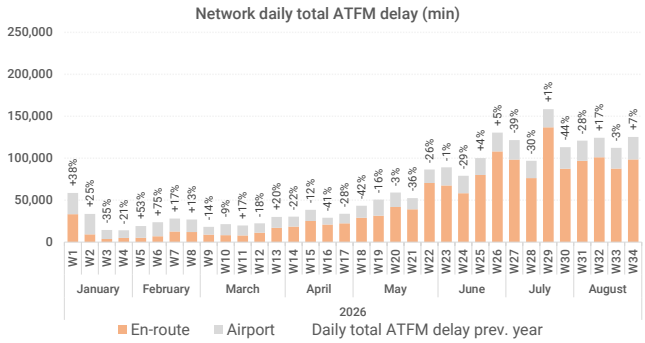
Traffic



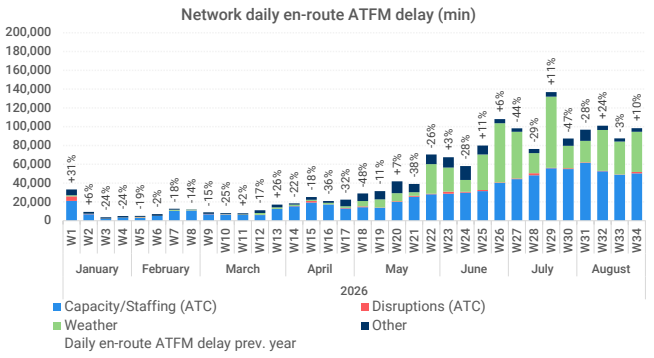
Punctuality (On Time Performance 15')



Total ATFM delay



En-route ATFM delay



AIRCRAFT OPERATORS: **Arrival punctuality** and the three most penalising ATFM locations for the 20 busiest aircraft operators*.

Rotation: All **Period: W34 (17 to 23 Aug 2026)**

Aircraft operator	Arrival punct (OTP15)	ATFM delay / flight (min)	Most penalising location (ATFM)	2nd most penalising location (ATFM)	3rd most penalising location (ATFM)
SAS Group	86%	2.08	Copenhagen Airport - 19%	Oslo Stavanger ACC - 18%	Oslo Airport - 15%
Turkish Airlines Group	83%	1.03	Belgrade ACC - 13%	Makedonia ACC - 12%	Karlsruhe UAC - 12%
Iberia Group	82%	3.71	Barcelona ACC - 24%	Madrid ACC - 21%	Marseille ACC - 17%
Vueling	80%	3.83	Barcelona ACC - 30%	Marseille ACC - 15%	Barcelona Airport - 14%
Norwegian Group	80%	2.95	Oslo Stavanger ACC - 21%	Oslo Airport - 16%	Reims ACC - 7%
Pegasus	79%	1.27	Karlsruhe UAC - 17%	Belgrade ACC - 15%	Vienna ACC - 7%
British Airways Group	78%	3.85	Reims ACC - 13%	Brest ACC - 11%	Karlsruhe UAC - 10%
Austrian Airlines	76%	4.13	Vienna Airport - 25%	Vienna ACC - 13%	Karlsruhe UAC - 8%
KLM Group	76%	3.83	Amsterdam Airport - 34%	Karlsruhe UAC - 10%	Reims ACC - 8%
Lufthansa Airlines	74%	3.09	Munich ACC - 19%	Karlsruhe UAC - 10%	Vienna ACC - 9%
Air France Group	74%	3.74	Marseille ACC - 16%	Paris Orly Airport - 10%	Paris ACC - 9%
TUI Group	71%	5.64	Reims ACC - 9%	Brest ACC - 8%	Barcelona ACC - 8%
Ryanair Group	69%	4.61	Marseille ACC - 16%	Barcelona ACC - 16%	Karlsruhe UAC - 7%
Wizz Air Group	69%	4.11	Marseille ACC - 14%	Zagreb ACC - 11%	Belgrade ACC - 10%
Eurowings Group	65%	5.36	Karlsruhe UAC - 16%	Marseille ACC - 16%	Barcelona ACC - 7%
AEGEAN Group	65%	4.16	Athens Airport - 28%	Makedonia ACC - 20%	Athens ACC - 10%
TAP Group	64%	6.07	Lisbon Airport - 19%	Madrid ACC - 19%	Barcelona ACC - 14%
easyJet Group	63%	6.21	Marseille ACC - 19%	Reims ACC - 10%	Barcelona ACC - 8%
SWISS Group	61%	6.25	Zurich Airport - 50%	Karlsruhe UAC - 7%	Marseille ACC - 7%
ITA Airways	59%	2.18	Marseille ACC - 15%	Rome ACC - 13%	Barcelona ACC - 11%

** Aircraft operator groups in the table above are defined @ https://www.eurocontrol.int/directory/airline-groups-lookup*

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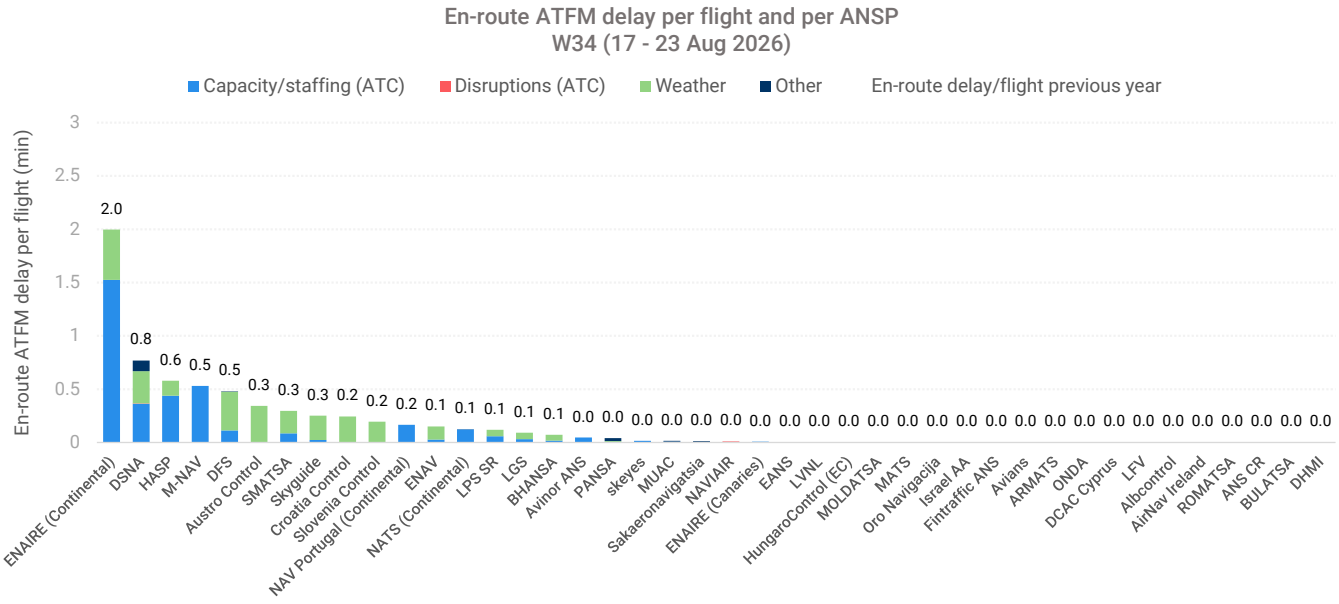
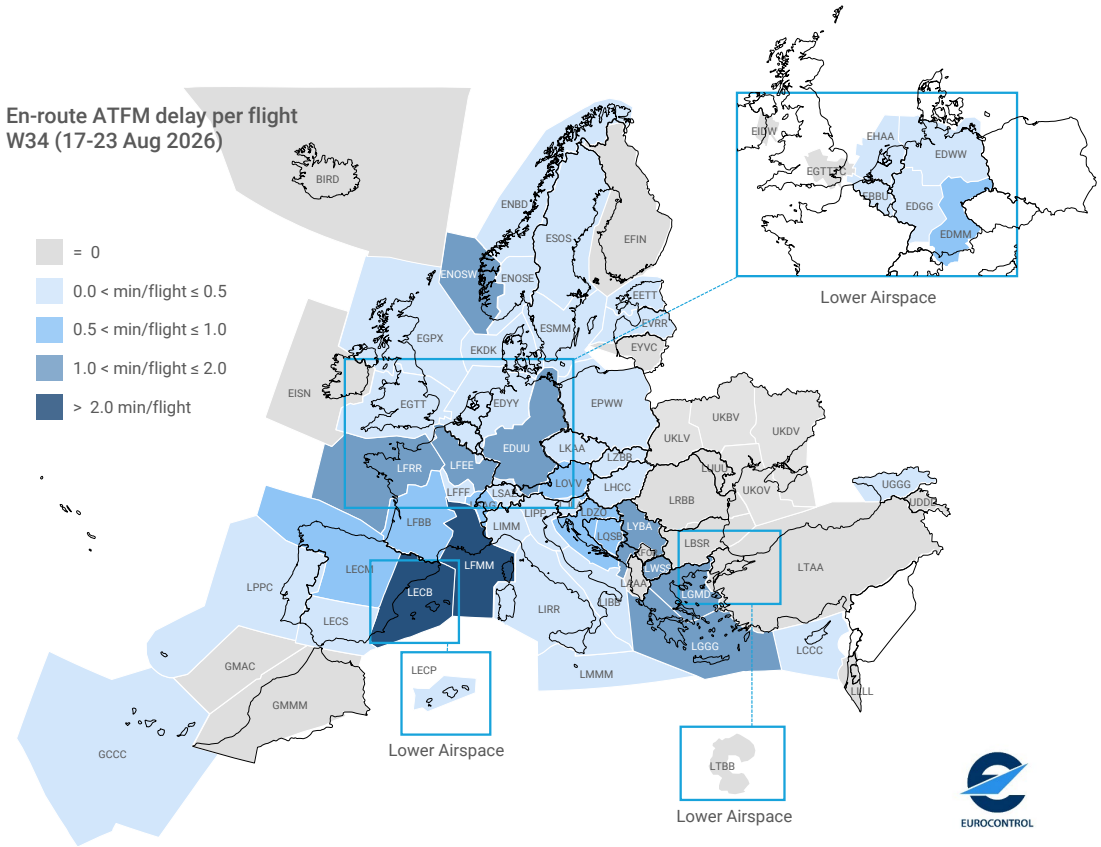
AIR NAVIGATION SERVICE PROVIDERS (ANSPs):

En-route ATFM delay per flight and per ANSP



ANSPs: En-route ATFM delay per flight and per ACC



CONSORTIUM COORDINATOR sesar DEPLOYMENT MANAGER

FOUNDING MEMBER sesar JOINT UNDERTAKING

NETWORK MANAGER

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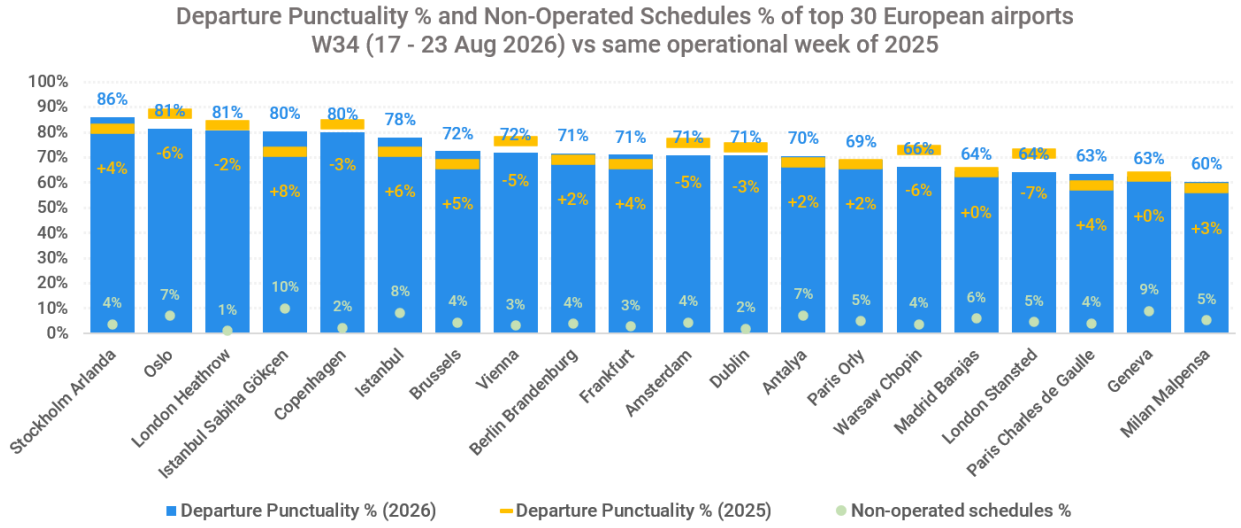
AIRPORTS:

Departure punctuality for the top 30 busiest airports in the network.



** Non-operated schedules defined @ https://ansperformance.eu/definition/opschedules/*

ADHERENCE TO THE NETWORK OPERATIONS PLAN (NOP)

The table below represents the EUROCONTROL Network Manager's assessment of the planned sector openings per ACC compared to the commitments in the NOP. It covers the expected situation over the 8 coming weeks.

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">ACCs that according to current plans will deliver sector openings agreed in the NOP 2026/27-2030:</th><th>ACCs that according to current plans will not deliver sector openings agreed in the NOP 2026/27-2030:</th></tr>
<tr><td>- Tirana
- Wien
- BH
- Zagreb
- Nicosia
- Maastricht
- Bordeaux (except 28 September-01 October due to 4-Flight Training)
- Brest
- Marseille (except 24 August-06 September)
- Reims</td><td>- Karlsruhe
- Athinai
- Makedonia
- Skopje
- Beograd
- Ljubljana
- Barcelona East
- Barcelona West (except Wednesdays/ Thursdays in August)
- Madrid
- Sevilla
- London
- Prestwick</td><td>- Barcelona West: Wednesdays/ Thursdays in August
- Bordeaux (28 September-01 October due to 4-Flight Training
- Marseille (24 August-06 September)</td></tr>
</table>

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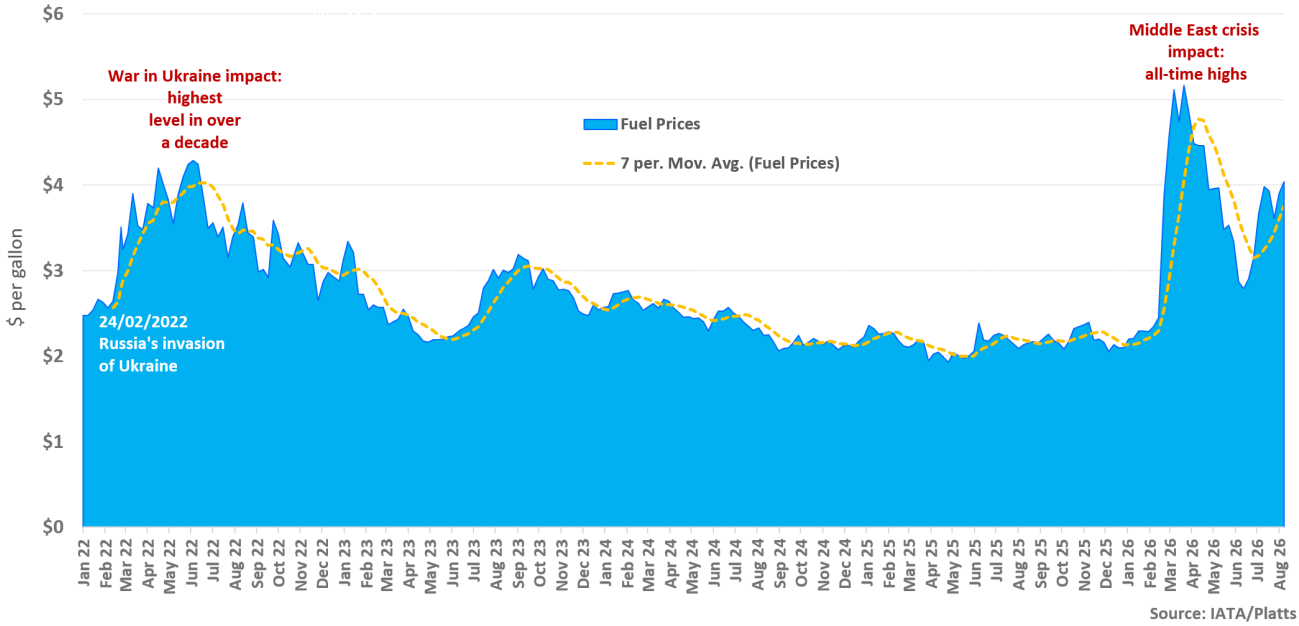
IMPACT OF THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS



Source: IATA/Platts

Fuel price	**21 August 2026**	**$4.04** /gallon **+3.5%** over one week