Network Manager
nominated by
the European Commission

EUROCONTROL

All-Causes Delay to Air Transport in Europe

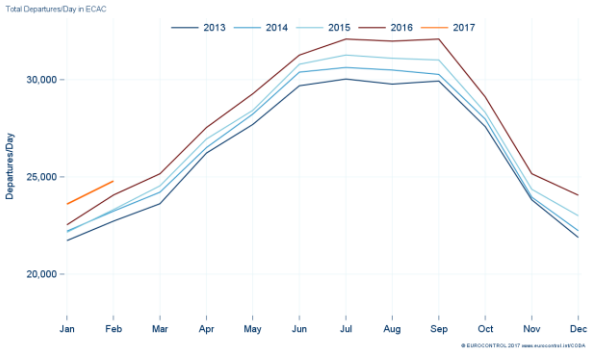
February 2017 – based on preliminary airline data*

Summary & Significant Events

In February 2017 preliminary data from airlines describing all-causes delay showed that the average delay per delayed flight (ADD) was 29 minutes, an increase of 5 minutes compared to February 2016, following a month where airport capacity and weather generated delays. The percentage of delayed flights (>=5 minutes) on departure was 37%, an increase of 3 percentage points when compared to the same month in 2016.

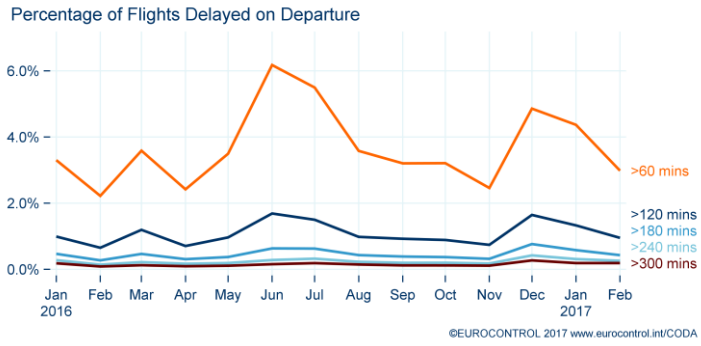
Seasonal weather (mainly snow and high winds) impacted several airports throughout February, especially Amsterdam Schiphol, Istanbul Ataturk, London Gatwick and London Heathrow. On 23 February Storm Doris affected the network and generated delays at all major London airports, as well as Amsterdam Schiphol and Frankfurt Main. Airport capacity delays continued to affect Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen, Amsterdam Schiphol and Istanbul Ataturk, although to a lesser extent than observed in February 2016 following a decline in flights at the airport. En-route delays were low in February however increased demand in the south west axis generated delay in Lisbon and Canarias ACCs mainly at weekends.

Traffic



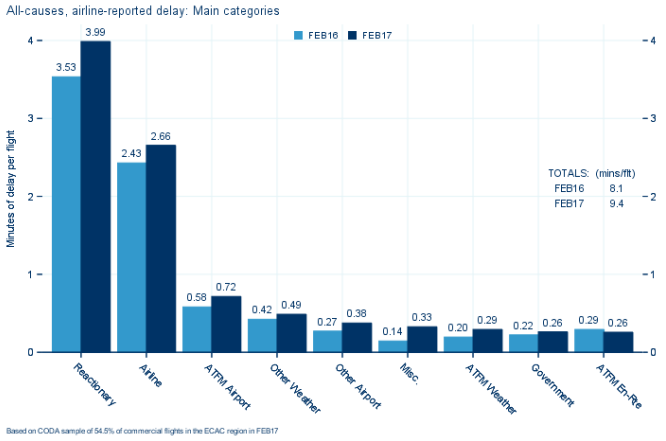
In February 2017, ECAC saw an increase of 3% in the number of flights per day compared to February 2016.

Long Departure Delays All-Causes



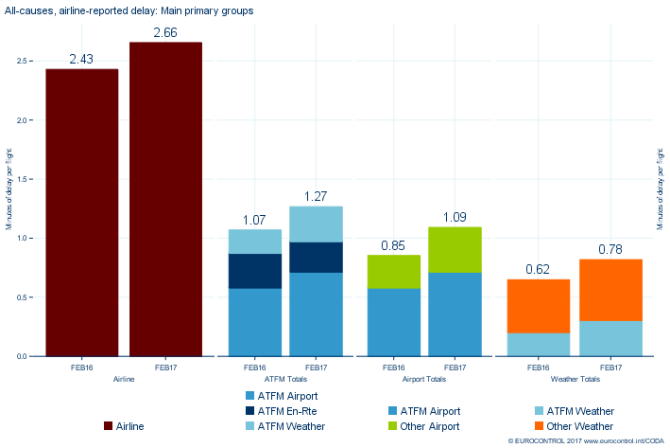
The percentage of flights delayed greater than 60 minutes from all-causes recorded an increase of 1 percentage point to 3% when compared to February 2016.

Average Delay Per Flight by Delay Cause



The average delay per flight in February 2017 increased by 1.3 minutes to 9.4 minutes per flight. Further analysis of the delay reasons shows that reactionary delay increased by 0.5 minutes per flight and airline related delay increased to 2.7 minutes per flight.

Primary Delay Groupings



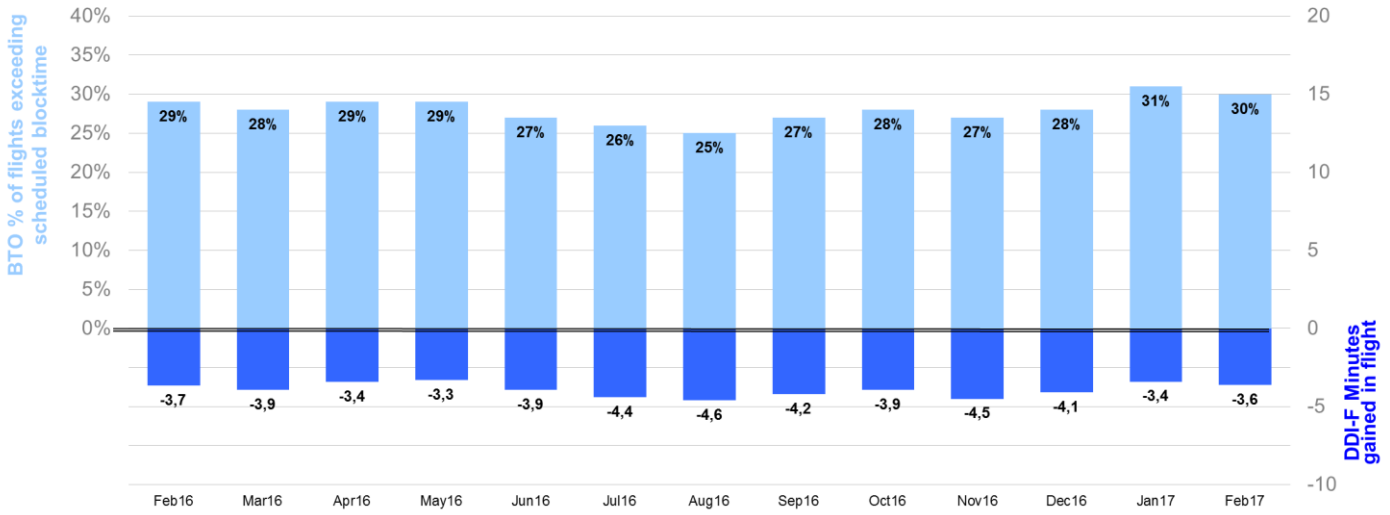
ATFCM delays reported by airlines increased to 1.3 minutes per flight, with ATFM airport and weather delay driving this increase. En-route delays remained stable at 0.3 minutes per flight.

* This CODA report is based on airline data as currently available. Airline data coverage for February 2017 so far is: 55%
Date of publication 22/03/2017

CODA Scheduling Indicators

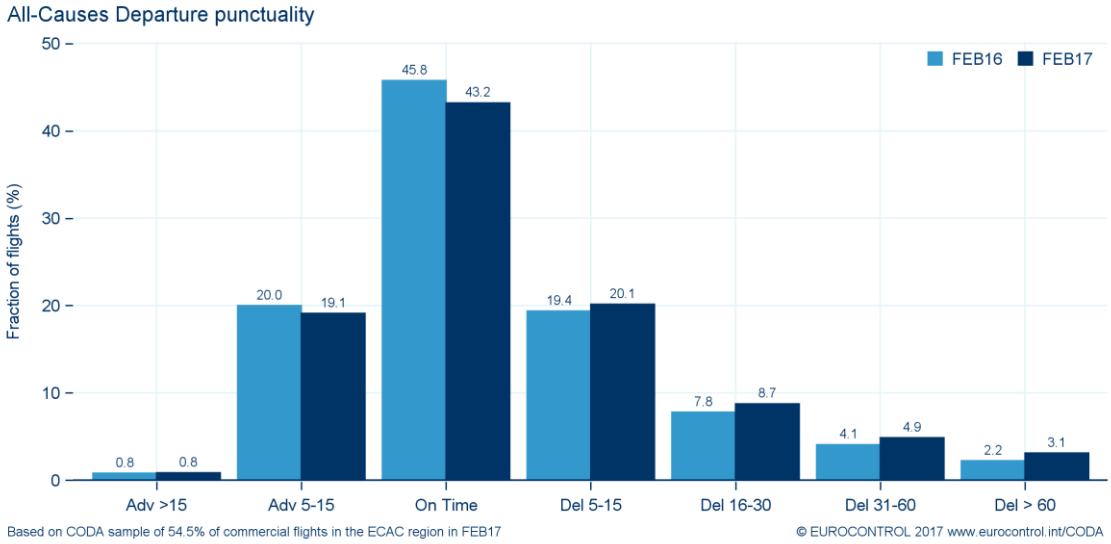
The **Block Time Overshoot (BTO)** or the percentage of flights with an actual block time which exceeds the scheduled block time. In February 2017 the European BTO slightly increased to 30% of flights exceeding their block times compared to a year ago.

The **Delay Difference Indicator - Flight (DDI-F)** or the difference between departure and arrival punctuality expressed in minutes. This can be indicated as a positive or negative figure, for example a flight departing with 20 minutes delay and arriving with 30 minutes arrival delay will have a DDI-F of +10 minutes. The European DDI-F in February 2017 was -3.6 minutes, a slight decrease when compared to February 2016 where the DDI-F was -3.7 minutes.



Distribution of All Flights by Length of Delay (Departure Punctuality)

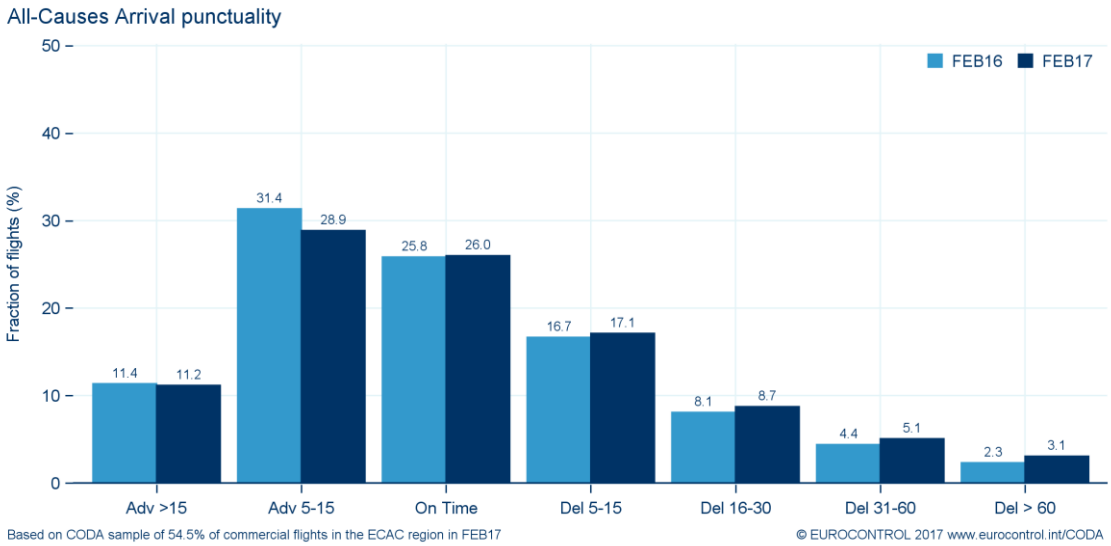
In February 2017, 43.2% of flights departed within the 5 minute threshold before or after the scheduled departure time (STD), a decrease of 3 percentage points in comparison to the equivalent month in 2016. Flights delayed >30 minutes from all-causes increased from 6.3 to 8.0 percent when compared to February 2016.



* This CODA report is based on airline data as currently available. Airline data coverage for February 2017 so far is: 55%
Date of publication 22/03/2017

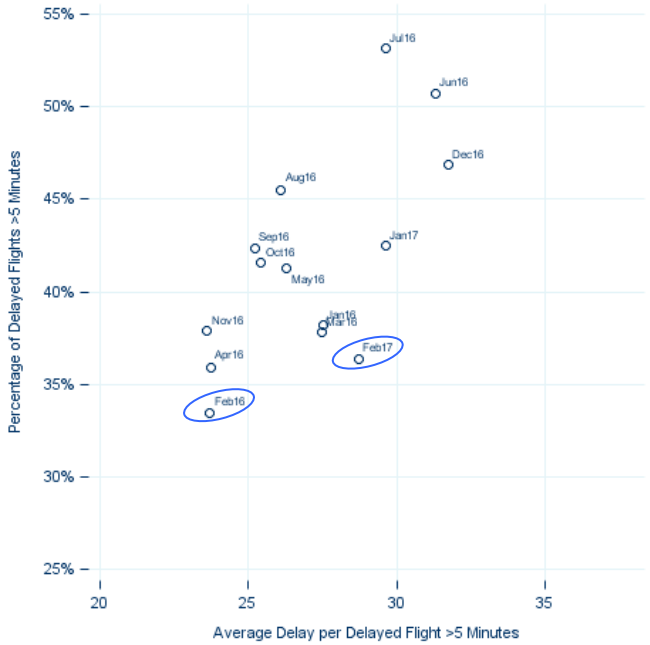
Distribution of All Flights by Length of Delay (Arrival Punctuality)

Regarding arrival punctuality, 82.4% of flights arrived within 15 minutes of the scheduled time of arrival time compared to 85.2% in February 2016. Flights arriving >15 minutes ahead of schedule remained high at 11.2% when compared to February 2016. This high share may affect airport (stand availability) and air traffic flow management operations (demand shifts) in the event of aircraft frequently arriving excessively ahead of their schedule.



Average Delay per Delayed Flight and Percentage of Delayed Flights Comparison

Departure



In February 2017 the average delay per delayed flight (>= 5 minutes) on departure was 28.7 minutes, an increase of 5 minutes. 36.4% of flights were delayed on departure, an increase of 3 percentage points when compared to February 2016.

Arrival

The average delay per delayed flight (>= 5 minutes) on arrival was 27.4 minutes, an increase of 1.6 minutes when compared to February 2016. 33.7% of flights were delayed on arrival, an increase of 2.2 percentage points when compared to February 2016.

* This CODA report is based on airline data as currently available. Airline data coverage for February 2017 so far is: 55%
Date of publication 22/03/2017