CAA Aviation Trends
Quarter 4 2024

Latest Quarter

10 Year Trends

Trend since 1990 (30+ years)

Data Tables (Latest Quarter)

A

Report Notes

1. Welcome to the CAA's *Aviation Trends* report. Every quarter we update key metrics which summarise "commercial" aviation activity at the United Kingdom's airports. Please note that the figures may be subject to minor changes in future due to on-going adjustment, revision and updates - historic reports will not be reissued.

2. The data in this report is compiled by the CAA with the co-operation of UK airport and airline operators. Their assistance is gratefully acknowledged. More detailed data and information regarding the source(s) are available on the CAA's website: https://www.caa.co.uk/data-and-analysis/uk-aviation-market/

3. Since the information contained in this report has been acquired from multiple sources, it is not possible for the CAA to check and verify whether it is accurate and correct nor do we undertake to do so. Consequently the CAA cannot accept any liability caused by any person's reliance on it.

4. For the purposes of this report the Channel Islands - Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney - and the Isle of Man are considered domestic aviation and their data is included, despite not formally being part of the United Kingdom.

5. Terminal Passengers

   a. Terminal passenger are travellers who board or disembark a commercial flight at a UK reporting airport. Note: domestic passengers are effectively counted twice (on boarding at one UK airport and disembarking at another) and therefore the figures displayed will not reflect the number of "onboard" passengers in the UK aviation market.

   b. Load Factor is calculated by dividing the number of passengers on a flight by the total number of seats expressed as a percentage - i.e. reflecting the seat occupancy on flights.

6. Air Transport Movements (ATMs)

   c. Similar to Terminal Passengers (above), an ATM between two UK airports - i.e. a domestic flight - will be counted twice, once on departure and on arrival at the destination airport.

   d. Data excludes Air Taxi flights: this is charter air transport movements performed by aircraft with a Maximum Take Off Weight (MTOW) of below 15 tonnes.

7. Cargo Tonnage data represents freight and mail which is transported into and out of the UK on air freighters and in the belly hold of passenger aircraft. Any cargo transiting the UK is not included in the figures.

8. Punctuality

   e. The CAA collects punctuality information from 25 UK airports - these are typically the largest airports in terms of movements/passengers. For the full list please visit the link below

   f. In the punctuality data, 'delay' is recorded as the difference between an aircraft's scheduled arrival or departure time and the actual time it reaches or departs the airport gate (pre 2018 'delay' was measured as the difference between the scheduled time and a calculated time that the aircraft reached/departed the gate by taking the time the aircraft arrived at the runway and a fixed taxi time to/from the gate (see the link below for more information).

   g. In 2018 the CAA began formally collecting flight cancellation information from airport suppliers. Before this data was supplied to the CAA on a voluntary basis. For more information on what formally constitutes a cancellation in the CAA data, please visit the link below.

   h. A flight is deemed to be "on-time" if it arrives or departs from the airport gate within 15 minutes of its scheduled time. The figures displayed in this report are an aggregation of UK arrival and departure punctuality.

   i. Since the CAA only collects information from UK airports, this report contains no information about overseas punctuality. This is pertinent particularly for flights departing the UK where time may be gained (or lost) en-route and therefore the total delay experienced by passengers may vary to that published.

   j. Average delay minutes are calculated from the total minutes of delay recorded by all flights (with early flights counted as zero minutes delay) divided by the total number of flights operated.

   k. More details regarding CAA punctuality statistics can be found here: https://www.caa.co.uk/data-and-analysis/uk-aviation-market/flight-punctuality/uk-flight-punctuality-statistics/

9. As some of the trends in this report are long term (30+ years), not all airports consistently reported to the CAA over this period - particularly regarding punctuality dataset. Therefore these figures should be used as a guide of national performance and not necessarily the precise results.

B

Key performance indicators - Q4 2024 (vs 2023)

Passengers

▲ 69.0M
+6%

Flights (ATM's)

▲ 498K
+3%

Cargo Tonnage

▲ 705K
+7%

Load Factor

▲ 81%
+2%pt

Flights On Time*

▲ 71%
+4%pt

Average Delay

▼ 17min
-1min
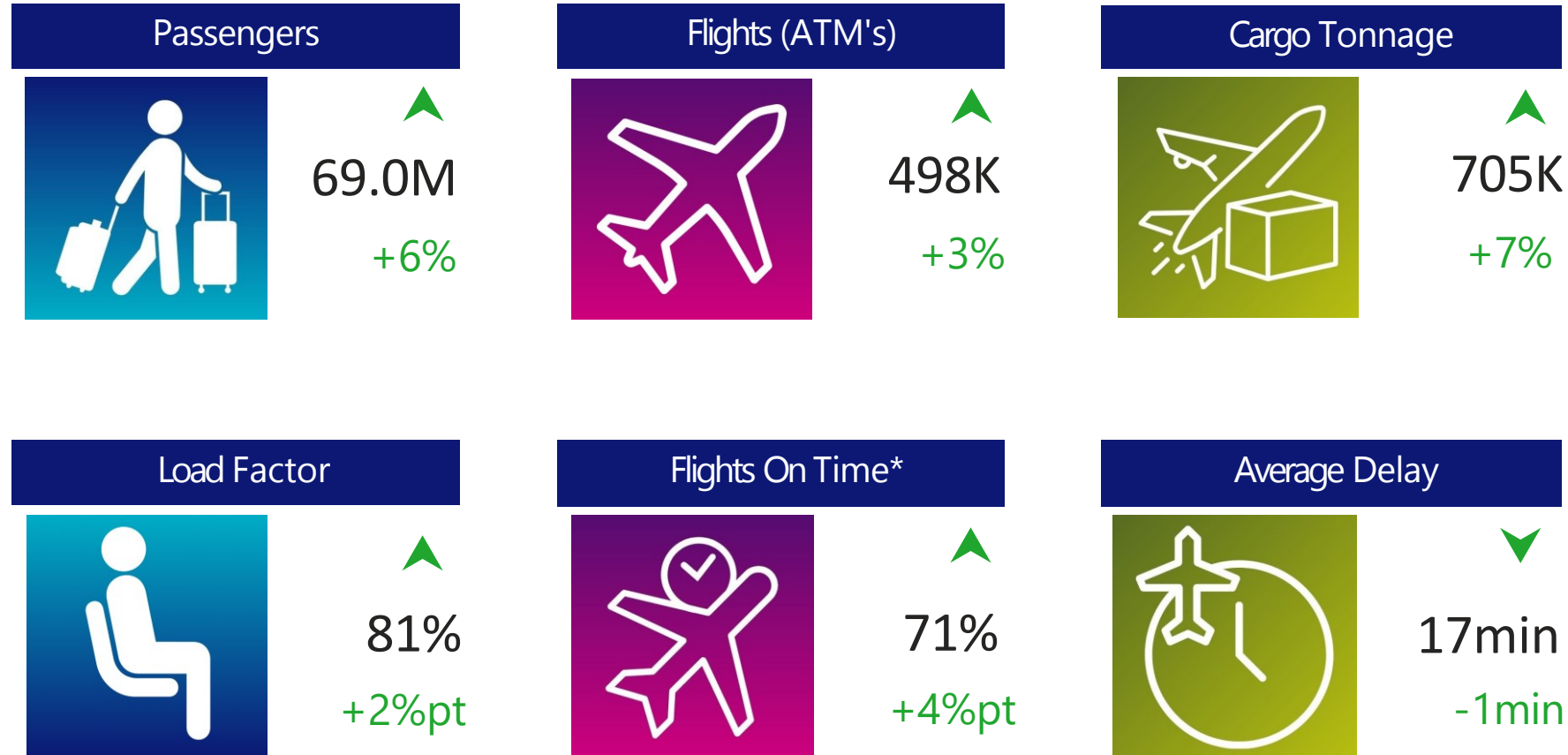
The figures on the left show the number of passengers, air transport movements (ATMs) and cargo volumes for the quarter. The load factor (the percentage of seats occupied on flights) and punctuality metrics are also displayed.

The text in green or red show growth rates relative to the same period last year.

* A flight is considered "on time" if it arrives or departs the gate within 15 minutes of the scheduled time.

2

Terminal passengers Q4 2024

Year-on-year comparison

Terminal passengers by airline
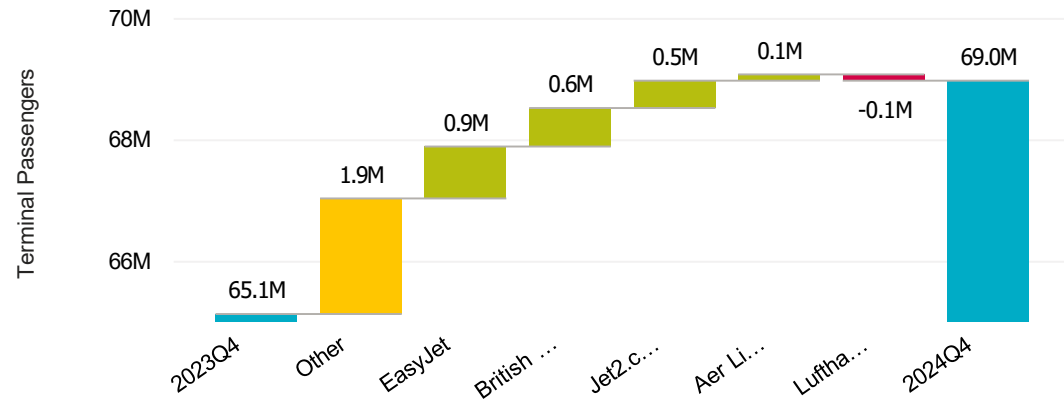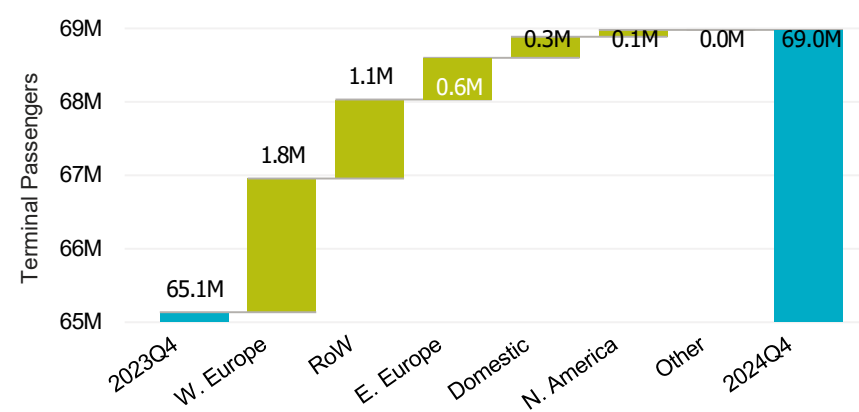

Terminal passengers by scheduled & charter services

Terminal passengers by reporting airport
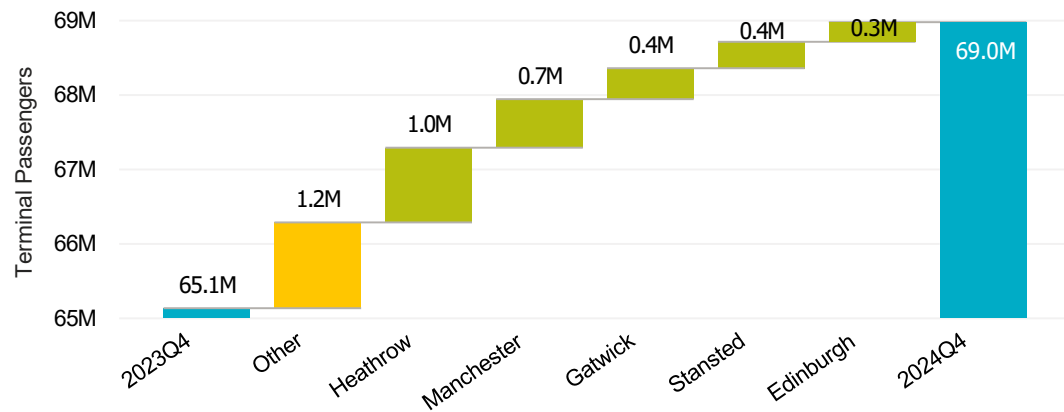
Terminal passengers by market

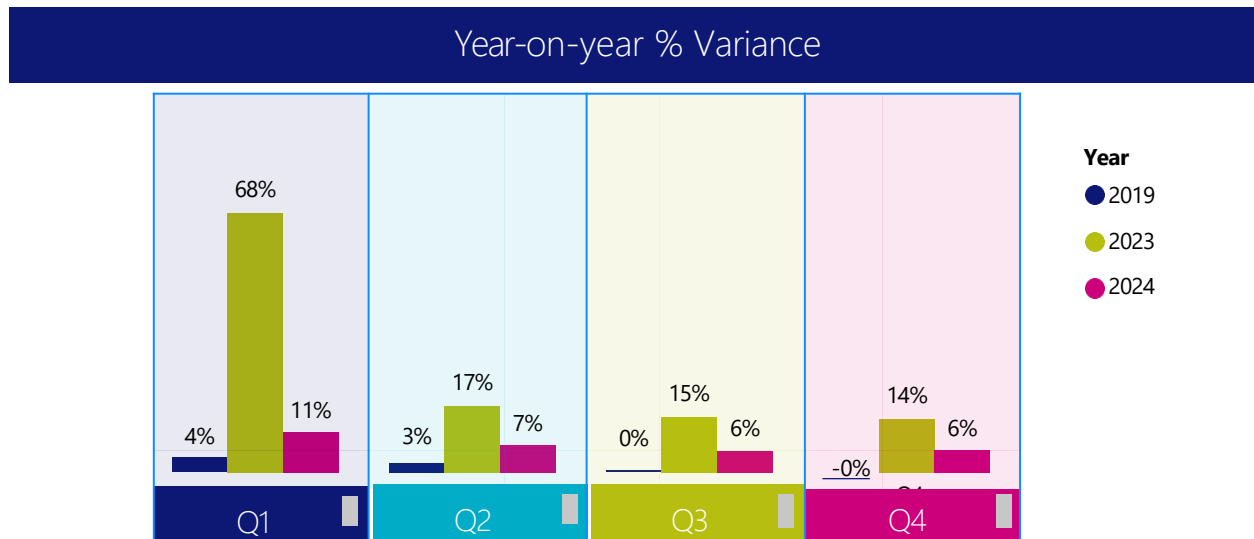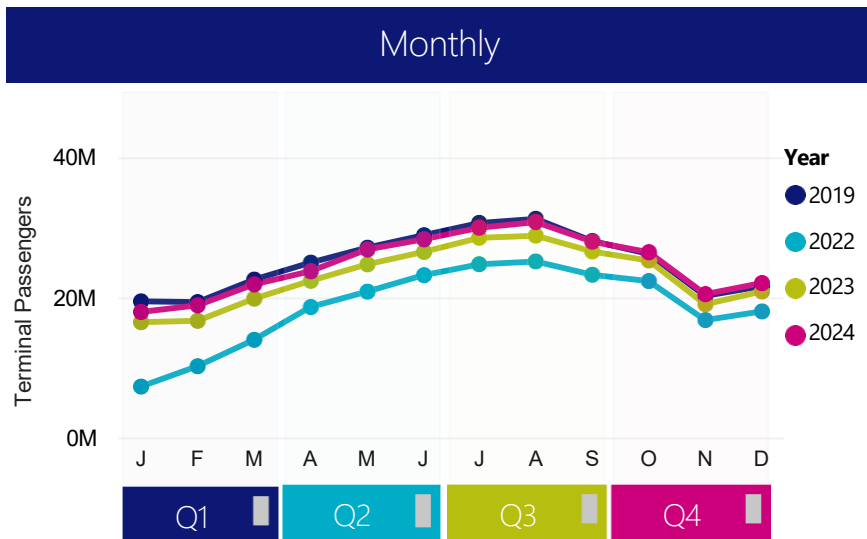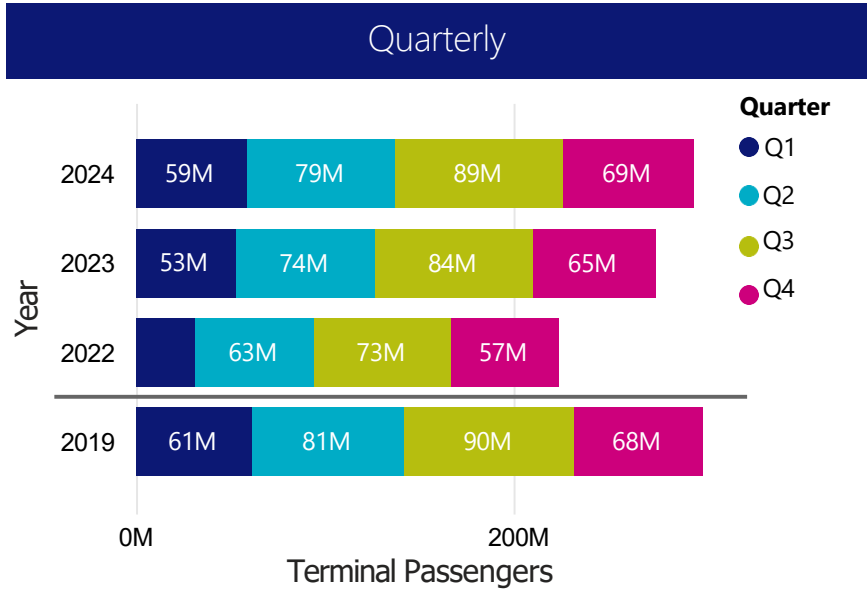The number of terminal passengers in Q4 was 69.0M up from 65.1M in the same period last year.

The charts on this page show the distribution of passenger growth across UK airports, airlines, operation type and market. The top 5 contributors are displayed for airports and airlines with the remainder grouped as "Other".

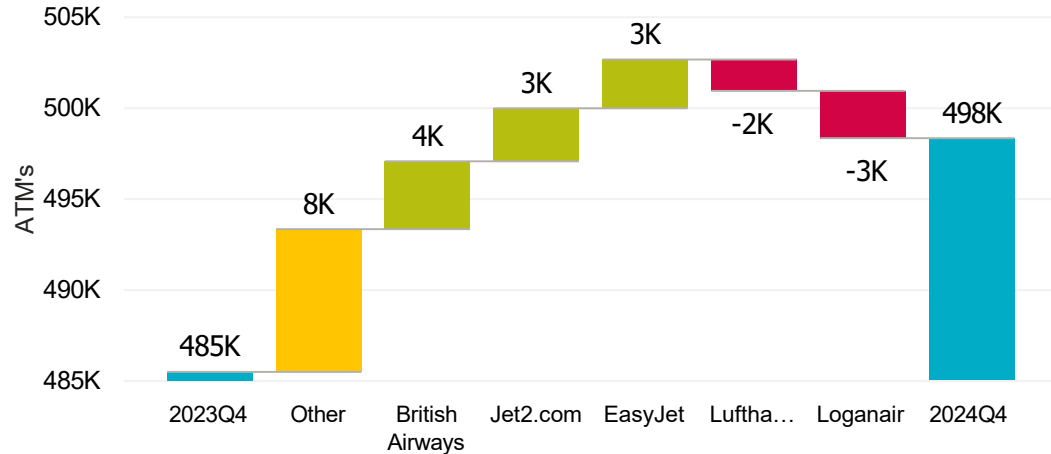# Terminal passengers

5 Year Trend

UK
Civil Aviation
Authority

Quarterly

Quarter
- Q1
- Q2
- Q3
- Q4

Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2024	59M	79M	89M	69M
2023	53M	74M	84M	65M
2022		63M	73M	57M
2019	61M	81M	90M	68M

Rolling 12-month total

- Rolling Annual Total (Pax)
- Rolling Annual Growth (%)

Monthly

Year
- 2019
- 2022
- 2023
- 2024

Year-on-year % Variance

Year
- 2019
- 2023
- 2024

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2019	4%	3%	0%	-0%
2023	68%	17%	15%	14%
2024	11%	7%	6%	6%

4

Air Transport Movements (ATM's) - Q4 2024

Year-on-year comparison

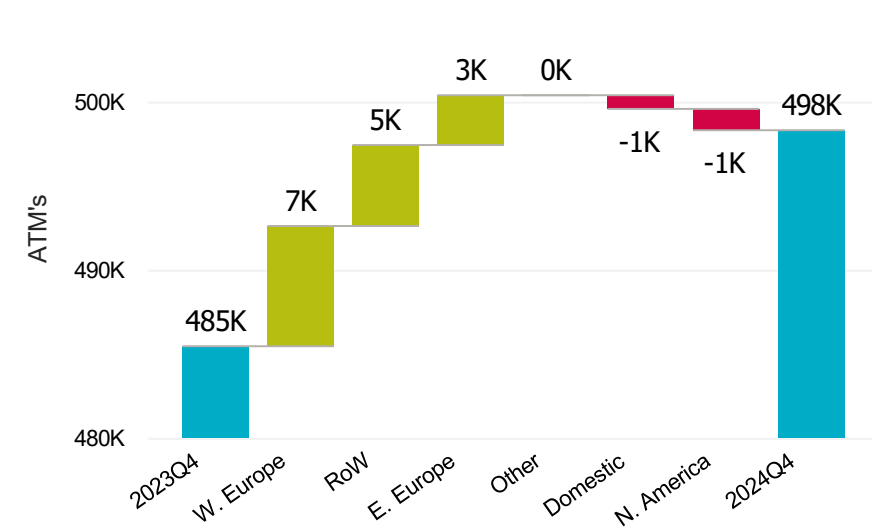UK Civil Aviation Authority

ATM's by airline

ATM's by scheduled & charter operation
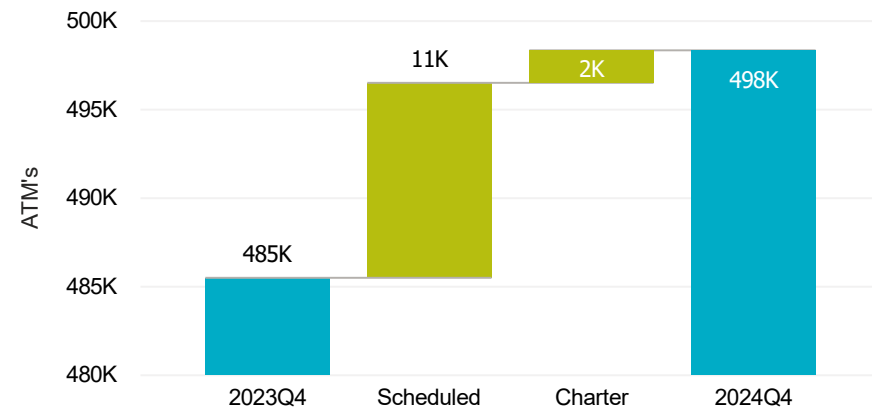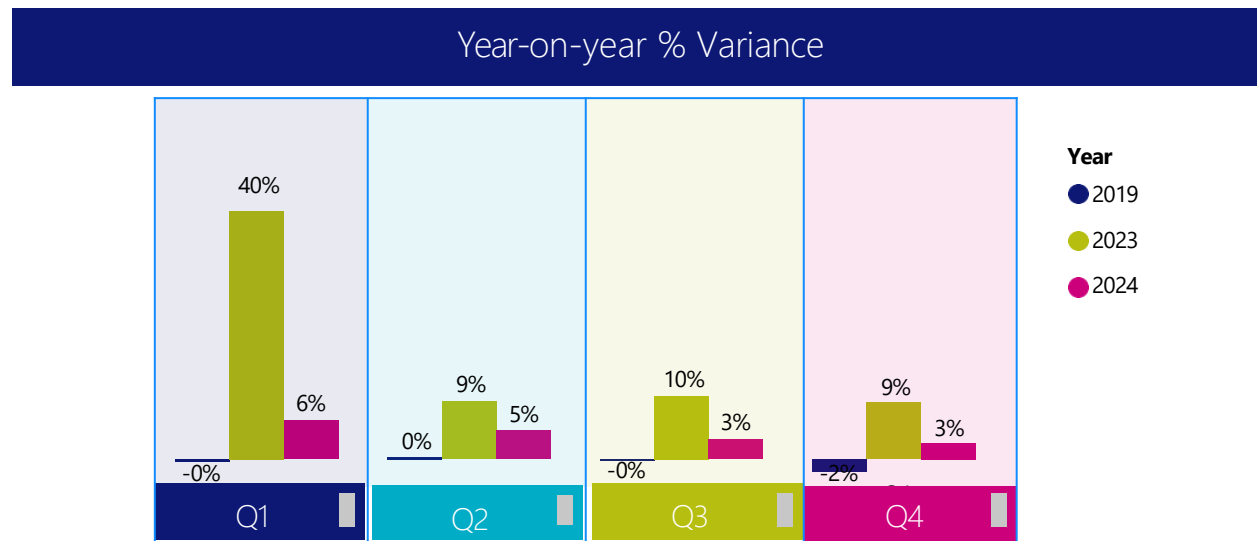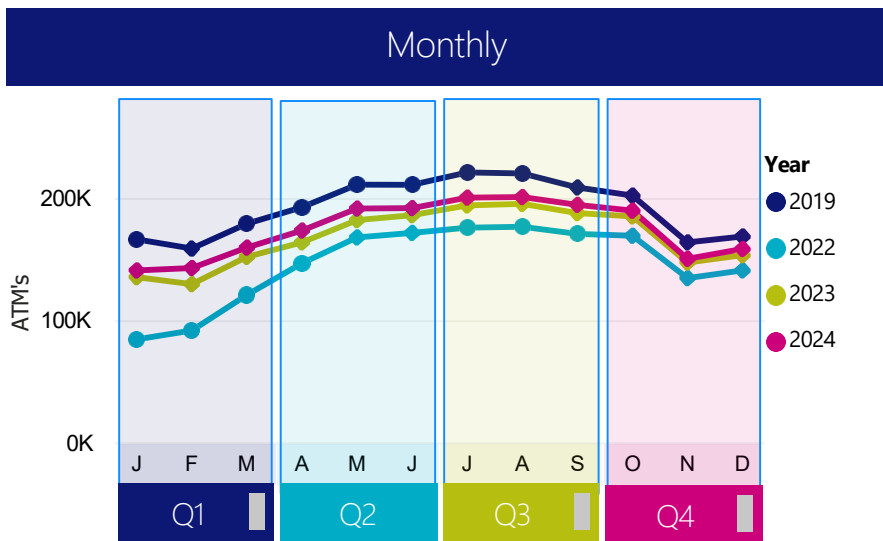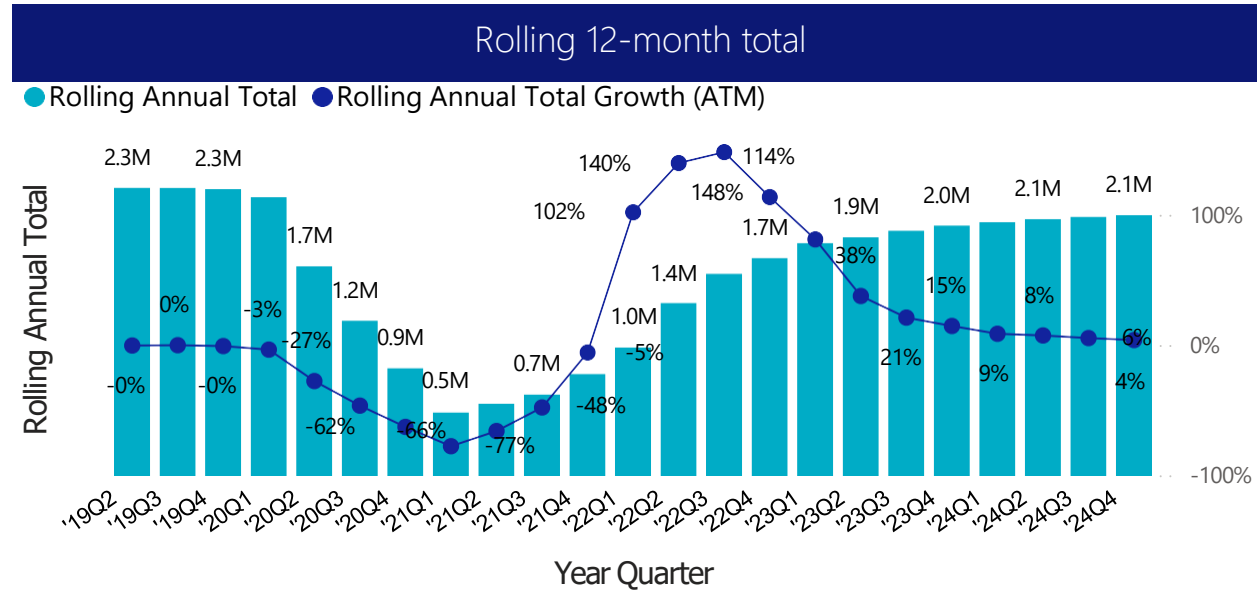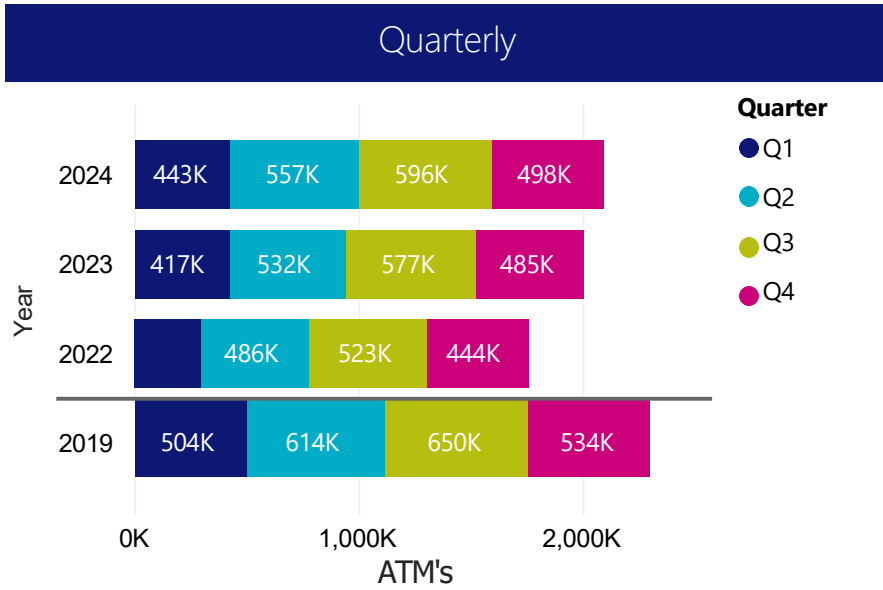

ATM's by reporting airport
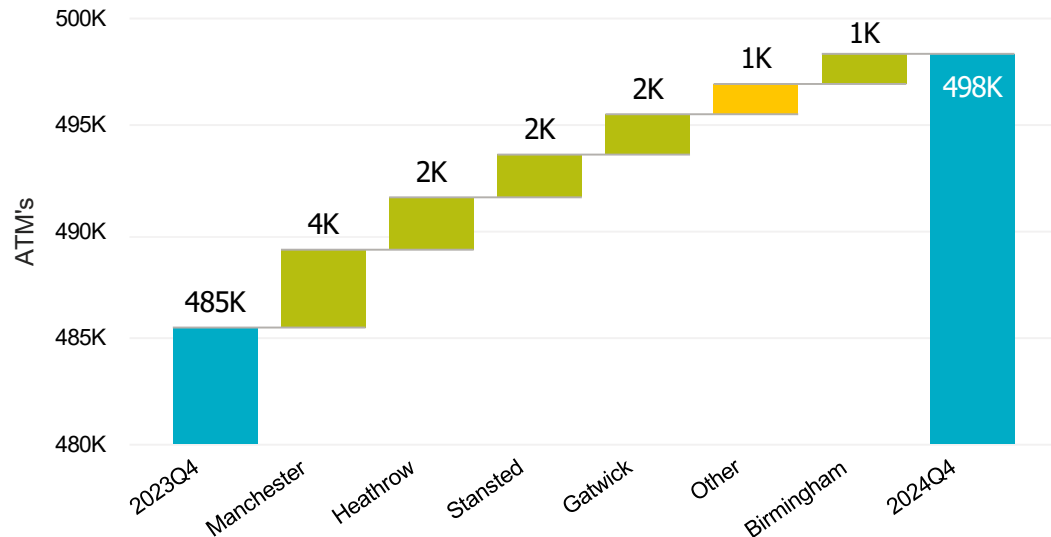
ATM's by market

The number of ATMs in Q4 was 498K up from 485K in the same period last year.

The charts on this page show how ATM growth is distributed across UK airports, airlines, operation type and market. The top 5 contributors are displayed for airports and airlines with the remainder grouped as "Other".

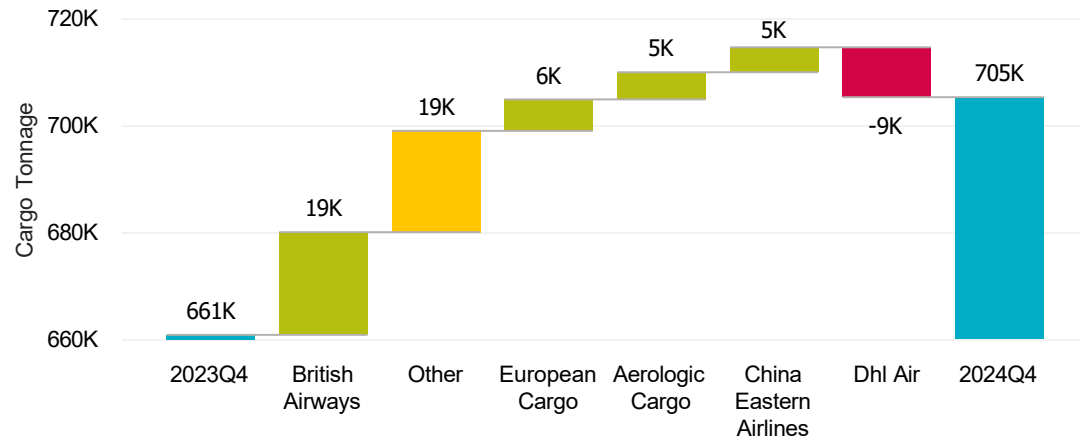# Air Transport Movements (ATM's)

5 Year Trend

UK Civil Aviation Authority

Quarterly

Quarter
● Q1
● Q2
● Q3
● Q4

2024: 443K | 557K | 596K | 498K
2023: 417K | 532K | 577K | 485K
2022: 486K | 523K | 444K
2019: 504K | 614K | 650K | 534K

Rolling 12-month total

● Rolling Annual Total   ● Rolling Annual Total Growth (ATM)

2.3M, 2.3M, 1.7M, 1.2M, 0.9M, 0.5M, 0.7M, 1.0M, 1.4M, 1.7M, 1.9M, 2.0M, 2.1M, 2.1M

-0%, 0%, -0%, -3%, -27%, -62%, -66%, -77%, -48%, -5%, 102%, 140%, 148%, 114%, 38%, 21%, 15%, 9%, 8%, 4%, 6%

Monthly

Year
● 2019
● 2022
● 2023
● 2024

Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4

Year-on-year % Variance

Year
● 2019
● 2023
● 2024

Q1: -0%, 40%, 6%
Q2: 0%, 9%, 5%
Q3: -0%, 10%, 3%
Q4: -2%, 9%, 3%

6

Cargo Tonnage - Q4 2024
Year-on-year comparison

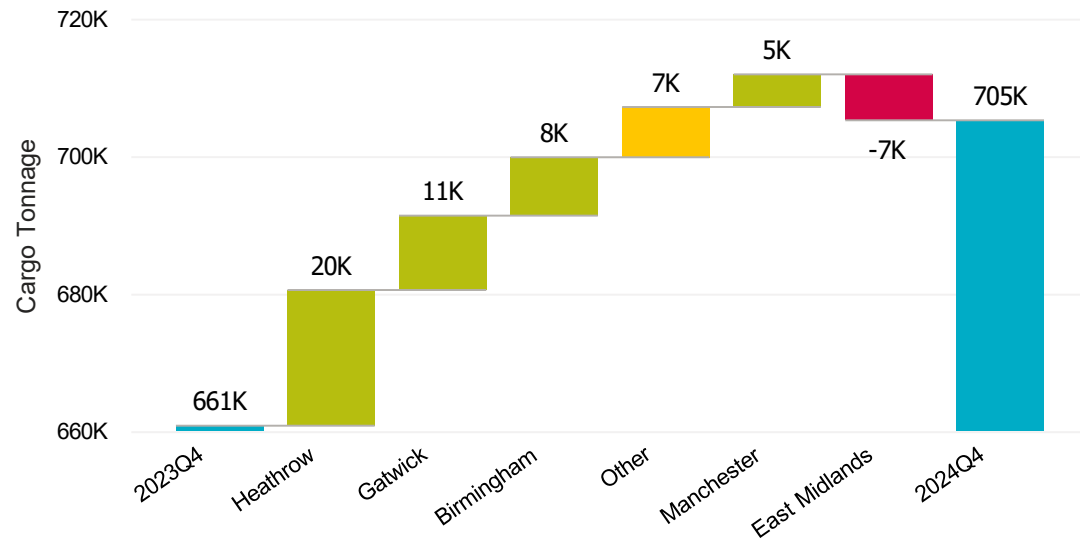UK Civil Aviation Authority

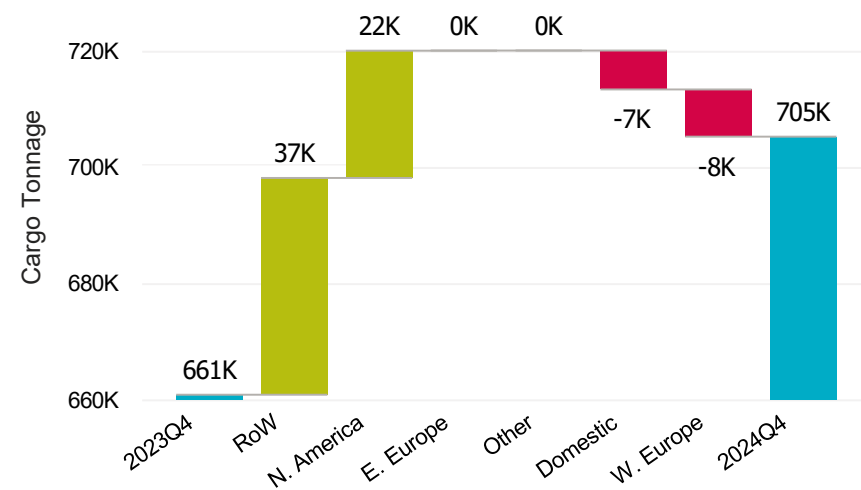## Cargo tonnage by airline

Cargo tonnage by passenger & freighter services
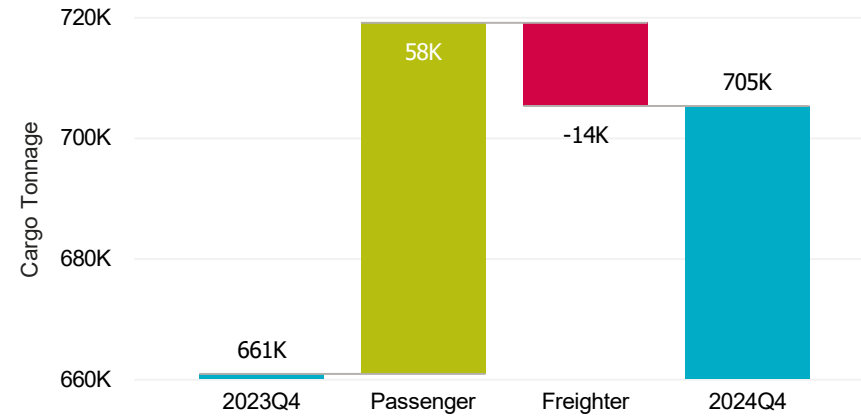
Cargo tonnage by reporting airport

Cargo tonnage by market

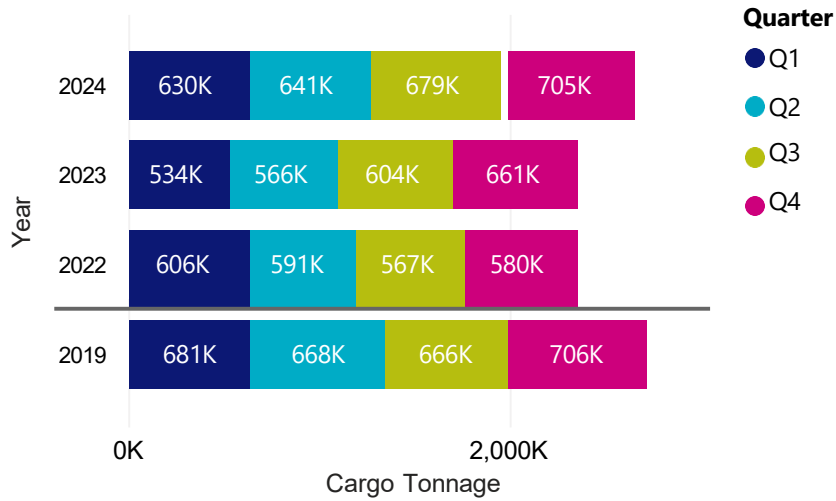Cargo Tonnage in Q4 was 705K up from 661K in the same period last year.

The charts on this page show how cargo tonnage growth is distributed across UK airports, airlines, operation type and market. The top 5 contributors are displayed for airports and airlines with the remainder grouped as "Other".
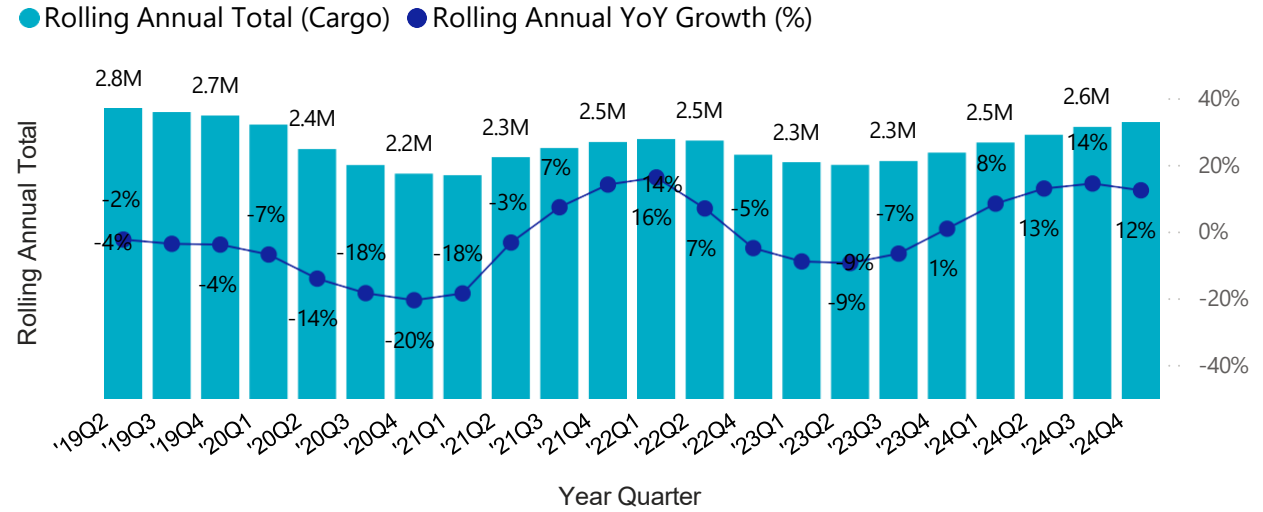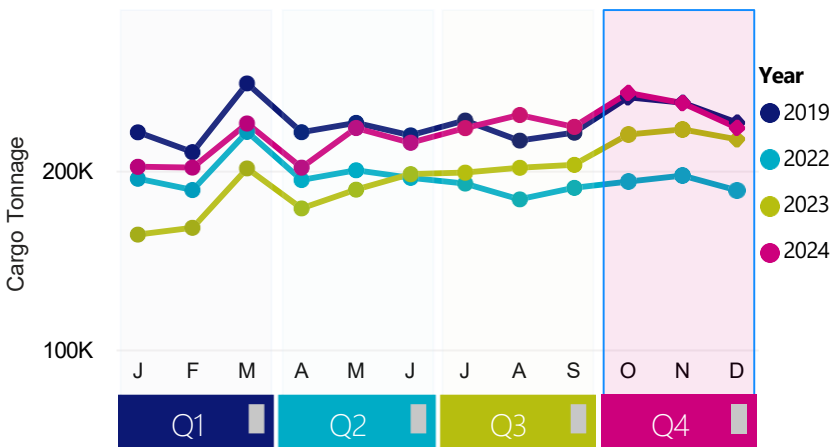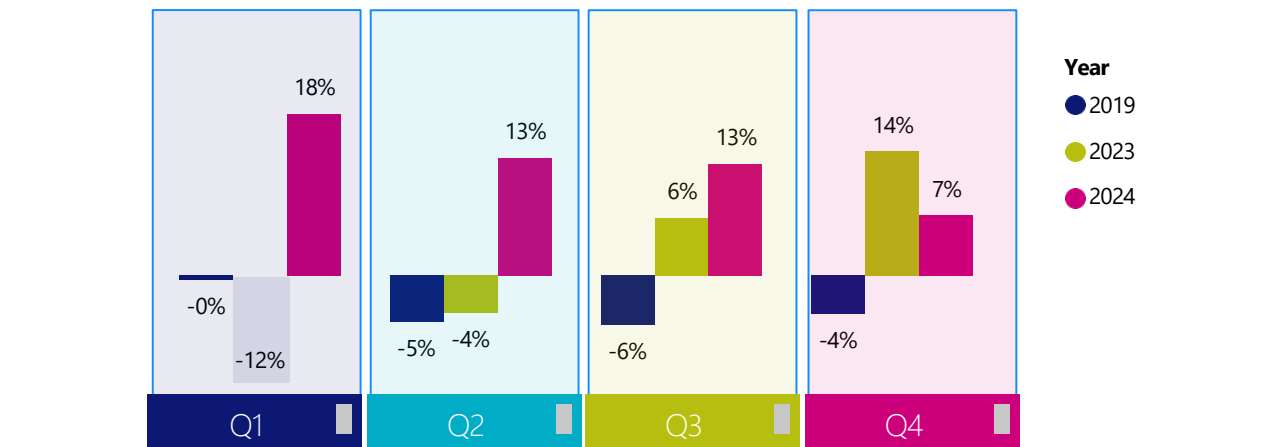
Cargo Tonnage
5 Year Trend

Quarterly

Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2024	630K	641K	679K	705K
2023	534K	566K	604K	661K
2022	606K	591K	567K	580K
2019	681K	668K	666K	706K

Rolling 12-month total

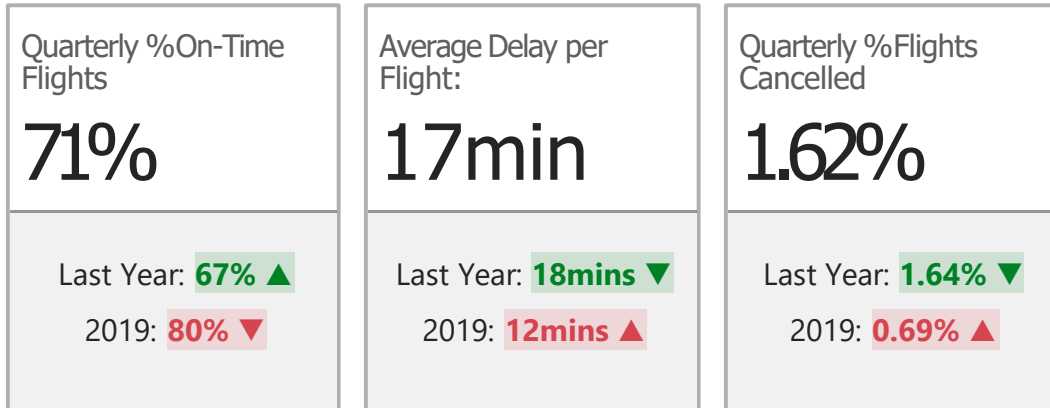- Rolling Annual Total (Cargo)
- Rolling Annual YoY Growth (%)

Monthly

Year-on-year % Variance

Punctuality Trends - Q4 2024

vs Last Year & 2019

UK Civil Aviation Authority

Quarterly Results

Quarterly %On-Time Flights

71%

Last Year: **67% ▲**

2019: **80% ▼**

Average Delay per Flight:

17min

Last Year: **18mins ▼**

2019: **12mins ▲**

Quarterly %Flights Cancelled

1.62%

Last Year: **1.64% ▼**

2019: **0.69% ▲**

% On-Time Flights (within 15mins of schedule)

Year ● 2019 ● 2023 ● 2024

Month	2019	2023	2024
October	77%	65%	69%
November	85%	75%	77%
December	77%	62%	67%

Average Delay per Flight (mins)

Year ● 2019 ● 2023 ● 2024

Month	2019	2023	2024
October	12.6	18.3	16.9
November	8.6	13.1	13.1
December	13.5	20.8	19.6
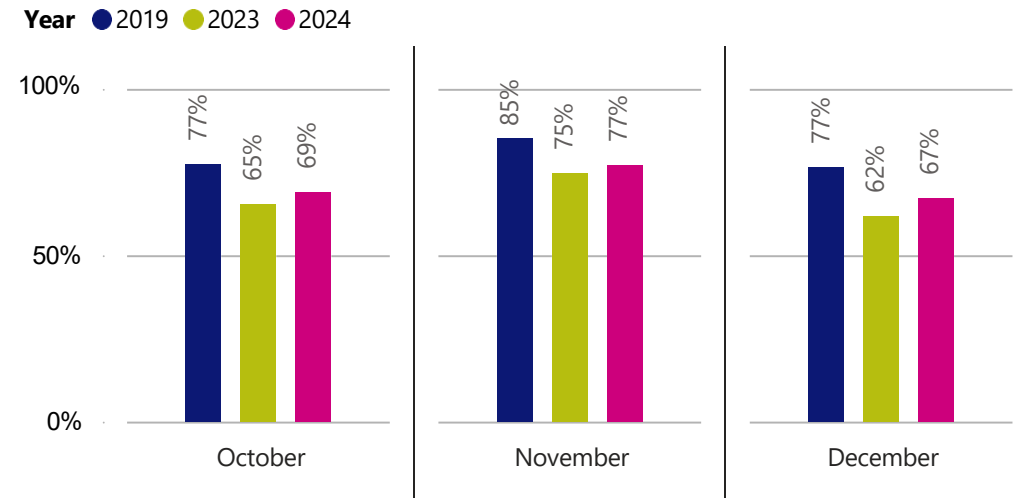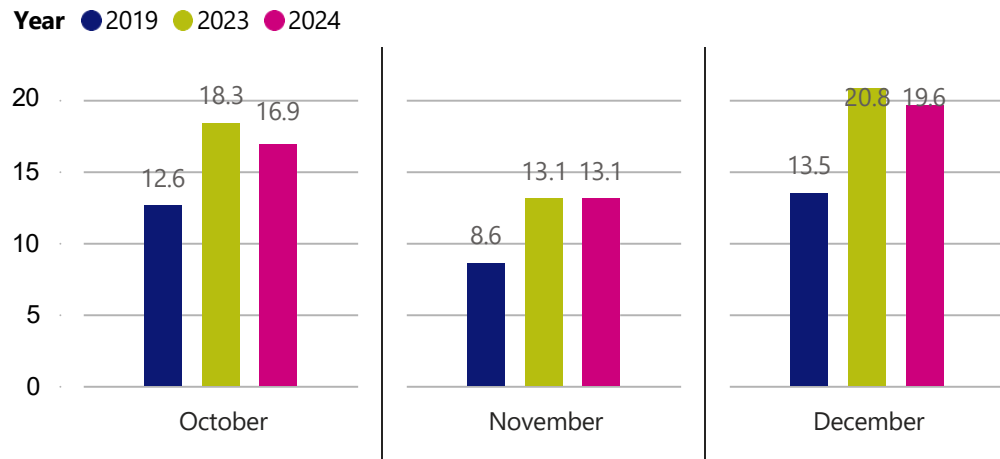
% Flights Cancelled (inside 24hr before departure)

Year ● 2019 ● 2023 ● 2024

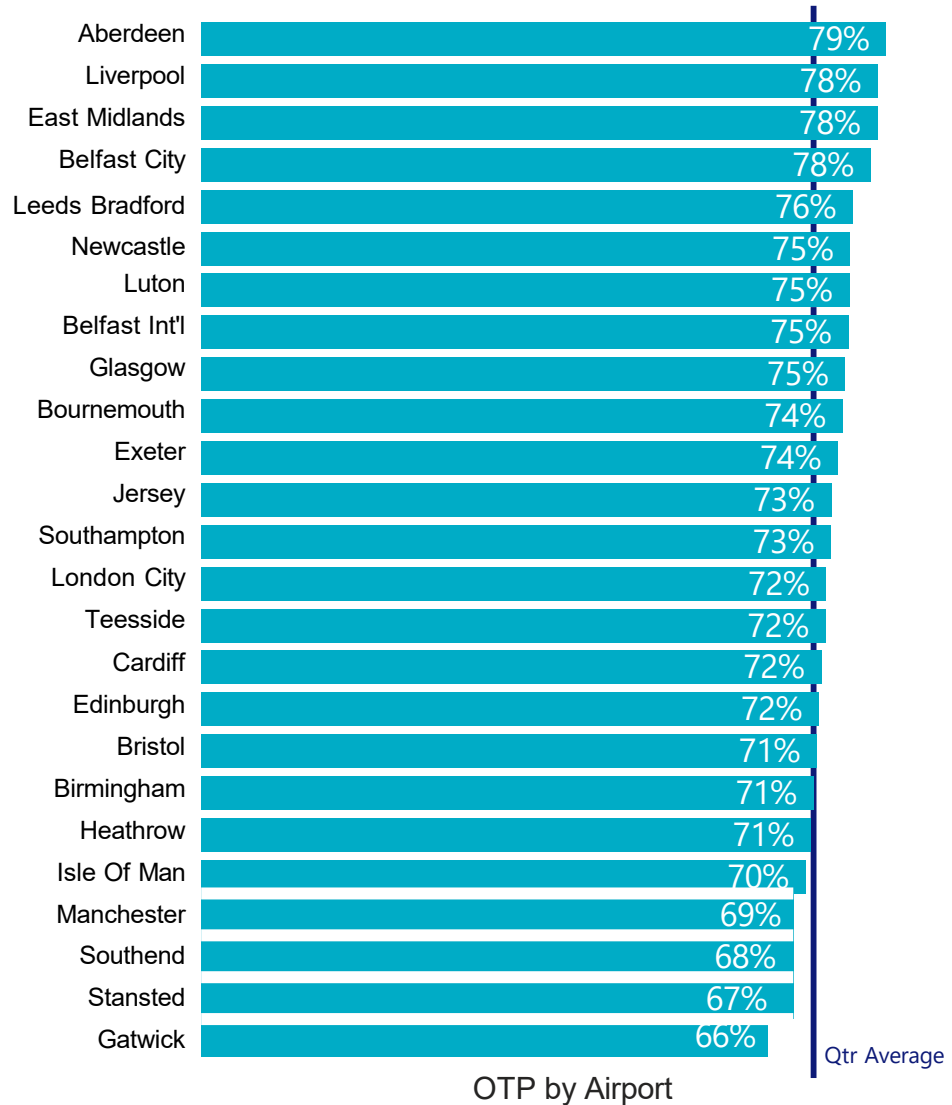| Month	2019	2023	2024
October	0.65%	1.68%	1.27%
November	0.53%	1.26%	1.38%
December	0.87%	1.95%	

13
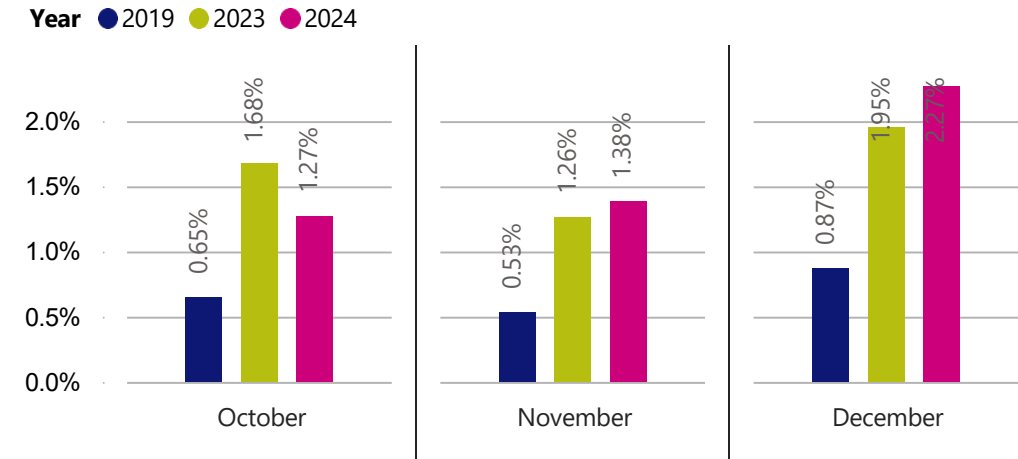
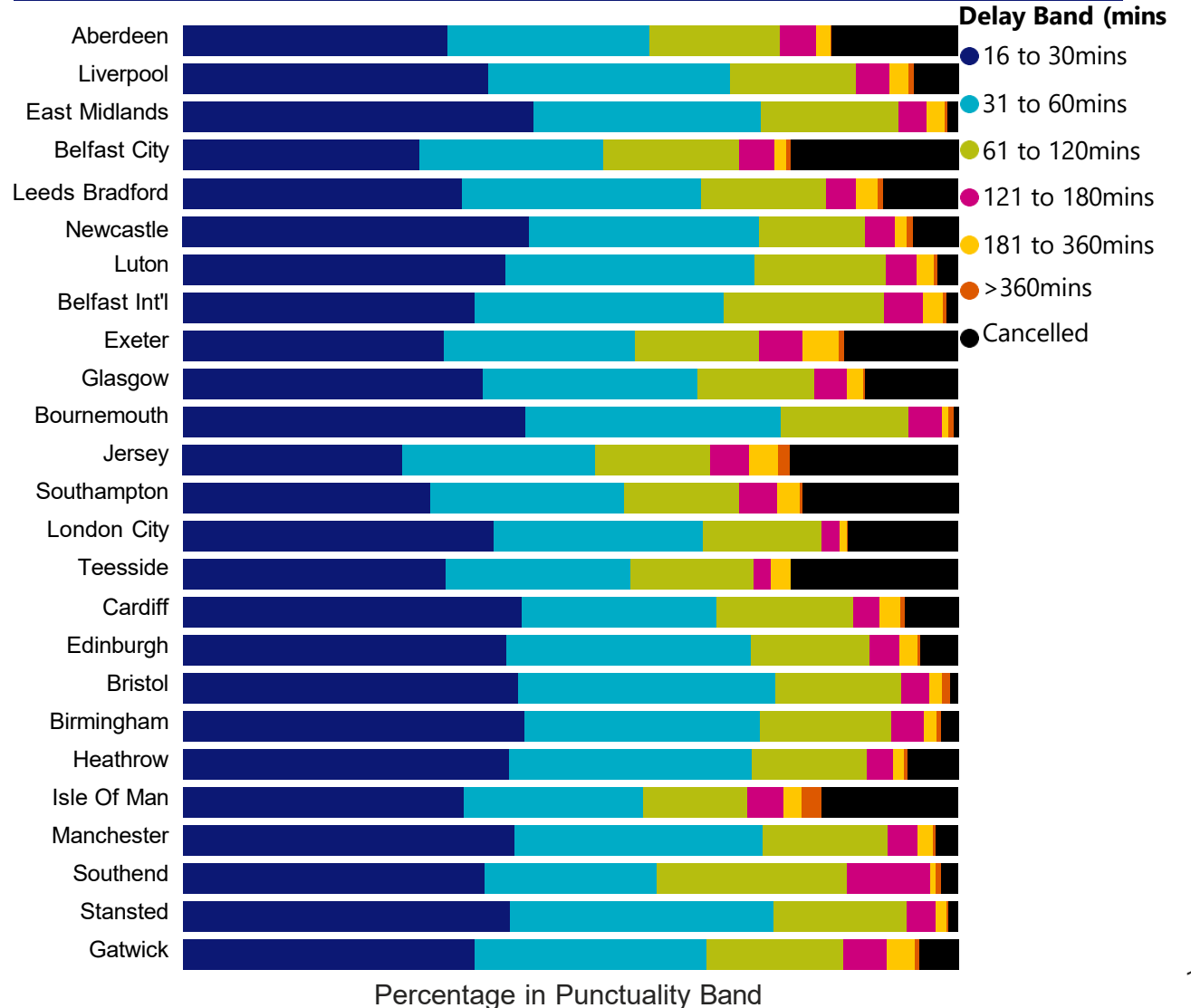# Flight Punctuality - Q4 2024 (UK Arrivals & Departures)

CAA (UK) reporting airports

Percentage of flights on time (<15mins)

| Airport	OTP
Aberdeen	79%
Liverpool	78%
East Midlands	78%
Belfast City	78%
Leeds Bradford	76%
Newcastle	75%
Luton	75%
Belfast Int'l	75%
Glasgow	75%
Bournemouth	74%
Exeter	74%
Jersey	73%
Southampton	73%
London City	72%
Teesside	72%
Cardiff	72%
Edinburgh	72%
Bristol	71%
Birmingham	71%
Heathrow	71%
Isle Of Man	70%
Manchester	69%
Southend	68%
Stansted	67%
Gatwick	66%

OTP by Airport — Qtr Average

Distribution of delayed flights

Delay Band (mins
- 16 to 30mins
- 31 to 60mins
- 61 to 120mins
- 121 to 180mins
- 181 to 360mins
- >360mins
- Cancelled

Percentage in Punctuality Band

10

Flight Punctuality - Q4 2024 (UK Arrivals & Departures)

Top 20 largest airlines by ATM's
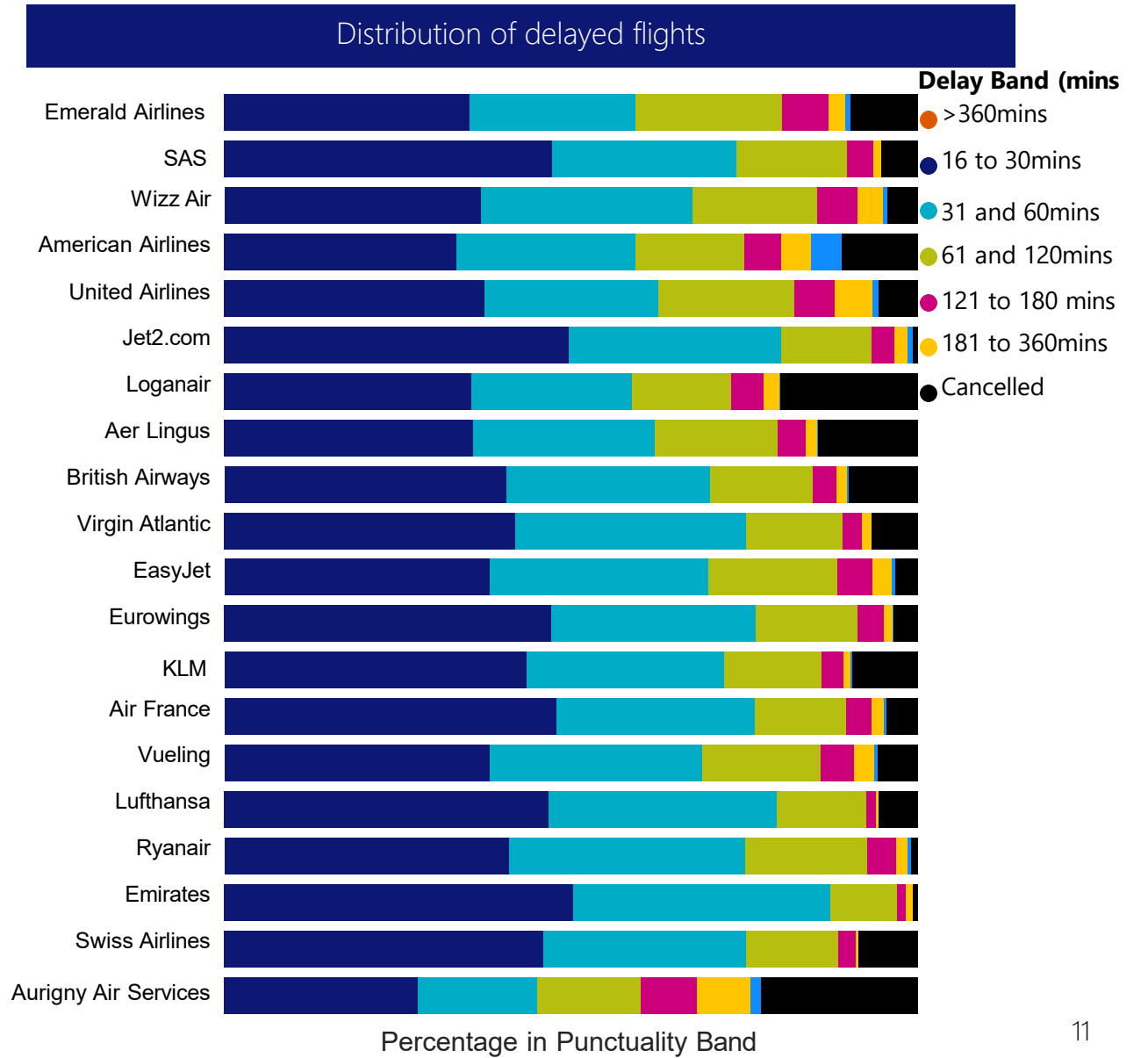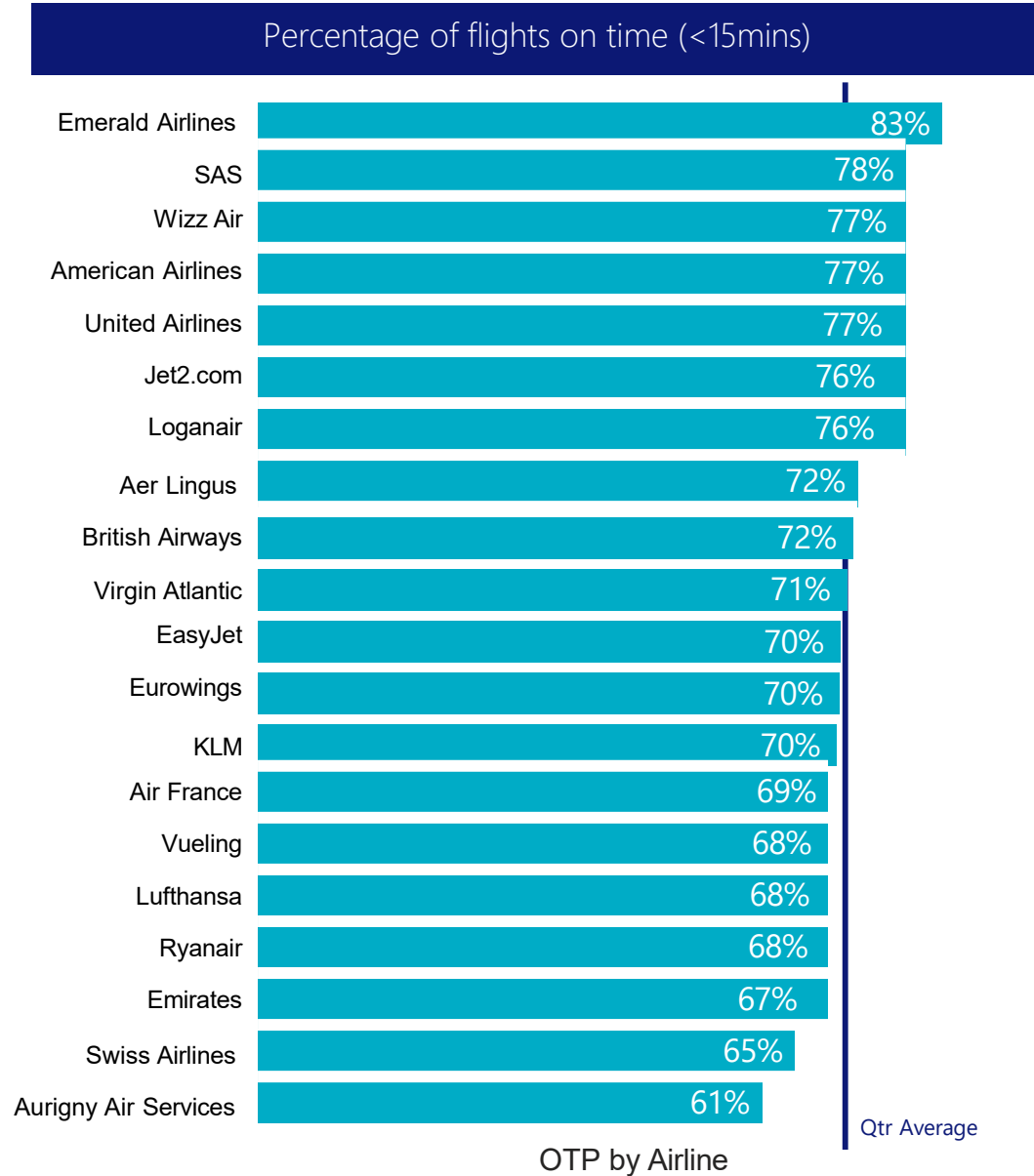
10 year trends

Terminal Passengers, Air Transport Movements (ATM) and Cargo Tonnage (NB: 2024 values are year-to-date and will update throughout the year)
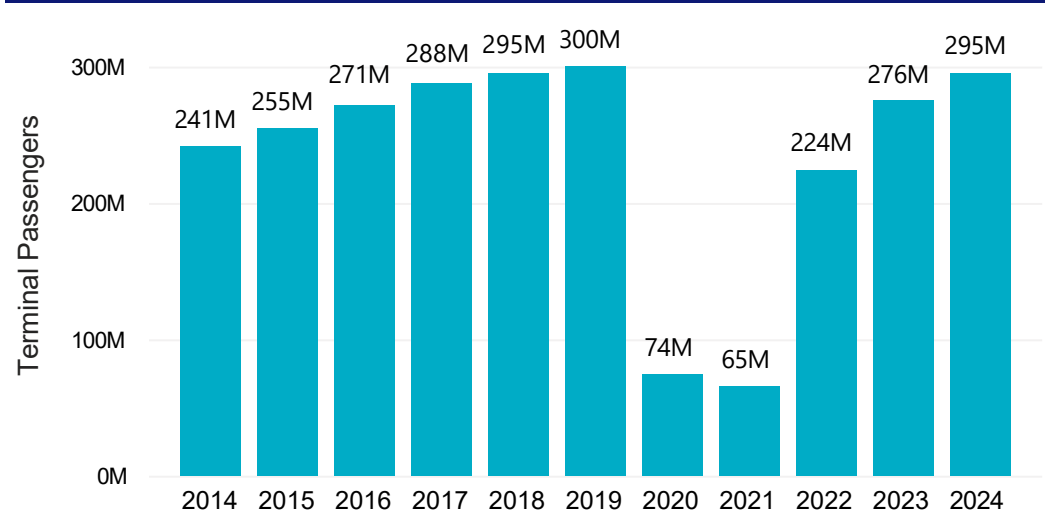
UK Civil Aviation Authority

Indexed passenger, ATM and cargo growth (2014 = 100)

● Terminal Passengers ● ATM's ● Cargo Tonnage
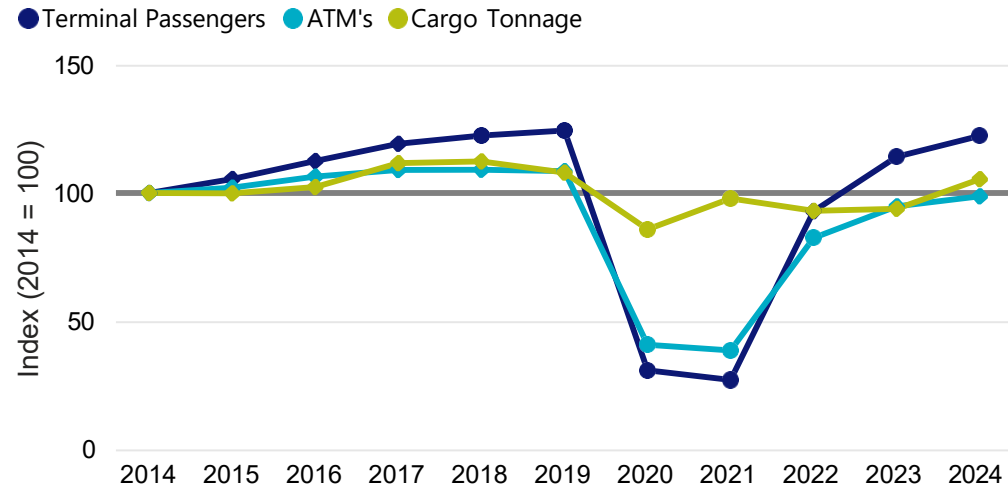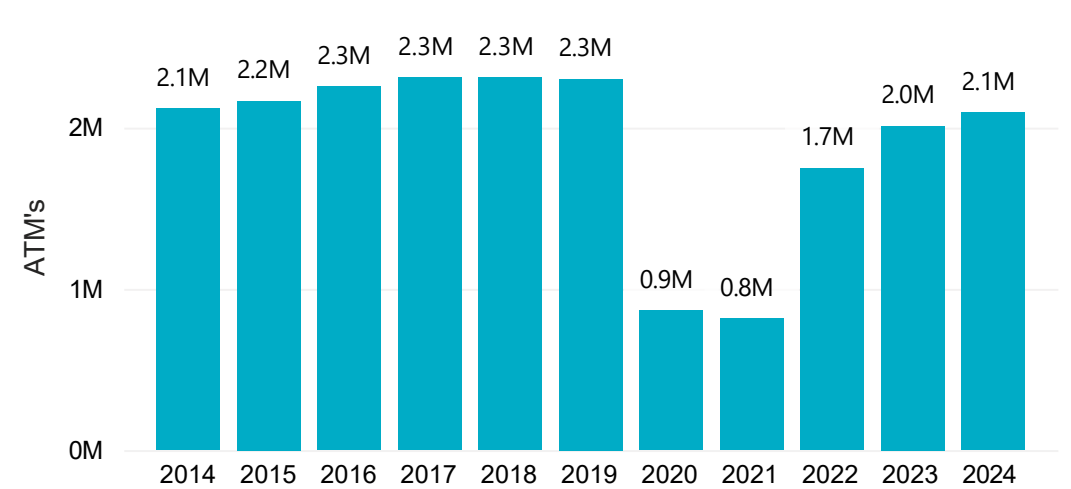
ATM's (millions)

Terminal passengers (millions)

Cargo tonnage (millions)

12
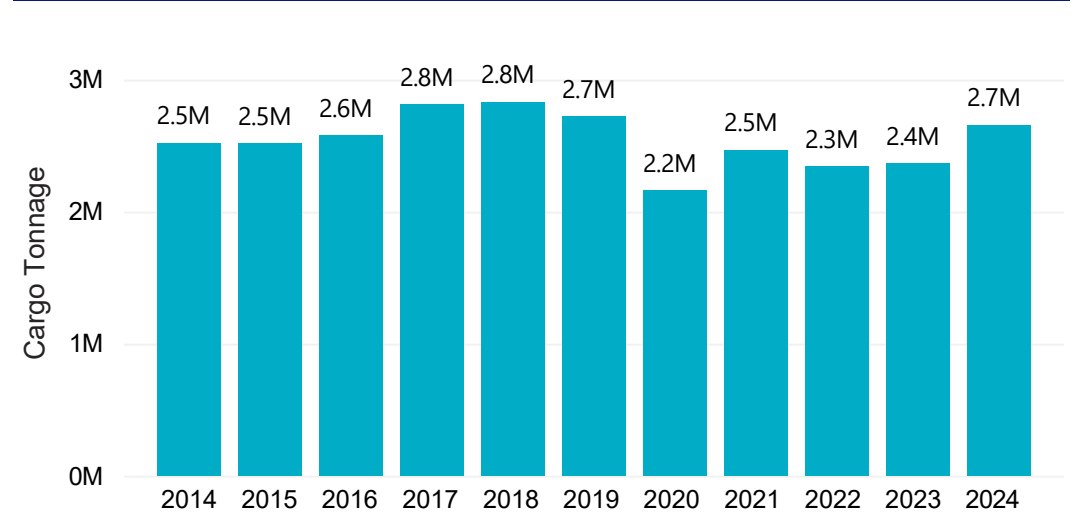
10 Year trends

Load Factor & Average Seats per Flight (NB: 2024 values are year-to-date and will update throughout the year)

Indexed ATM, load factor and average seats per flight (2014 = 100)

Average seats per flight
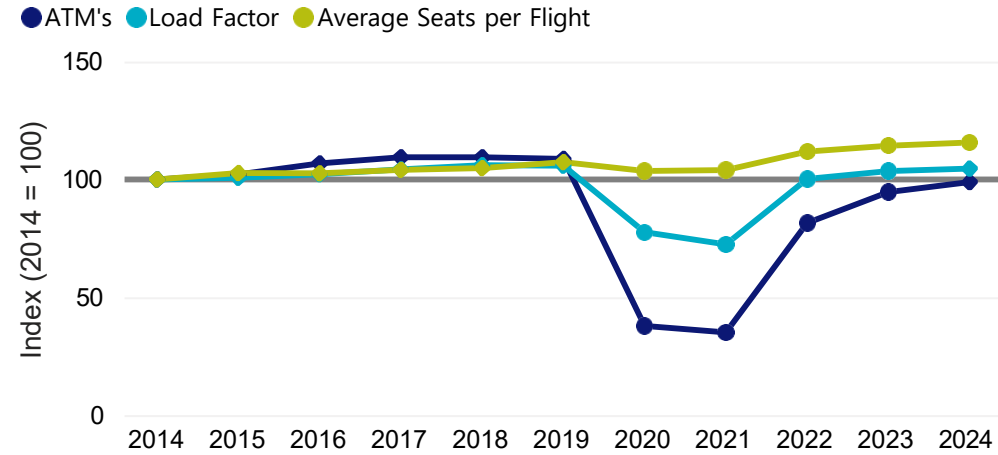
Average load factor (%)
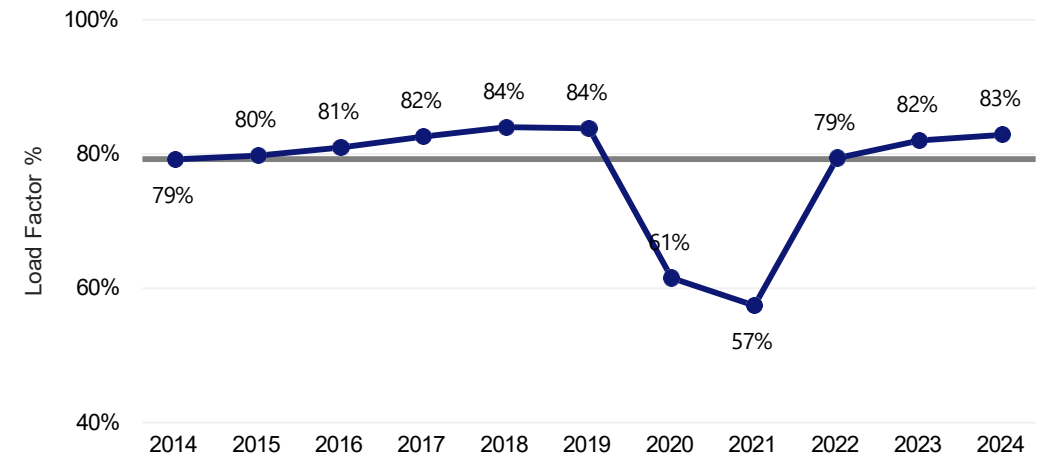
NB: Load Factor (%) represents the proportion of seats on a flight used on a flight i.e. Terminal Passengers / Total Seats.
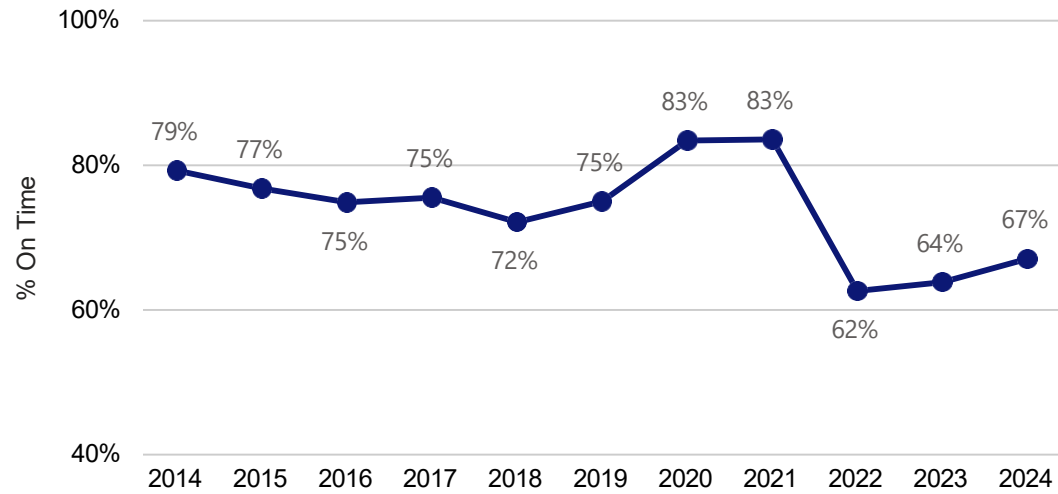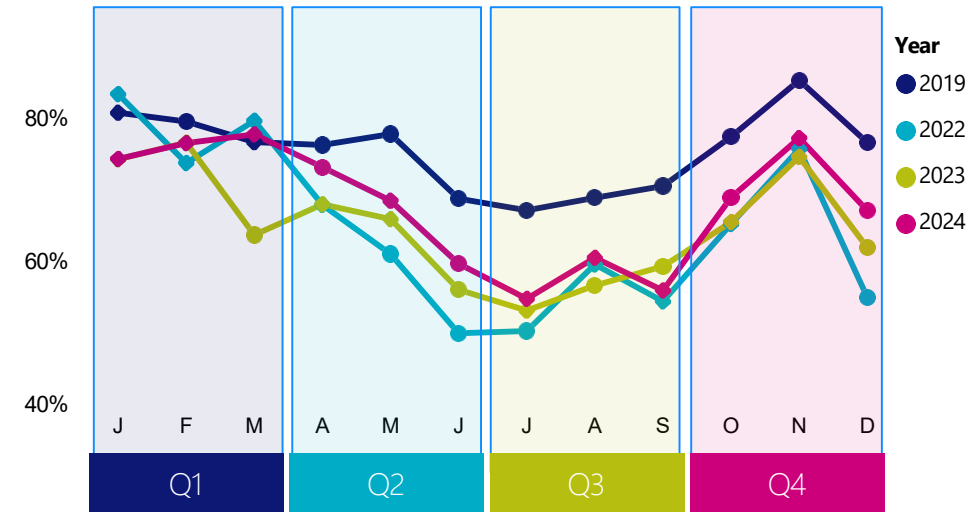
13
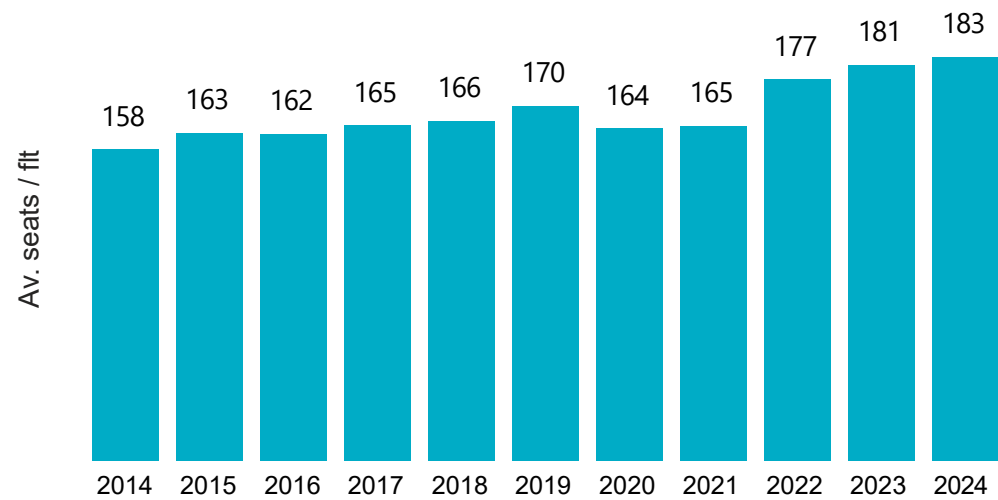
10 Year trends

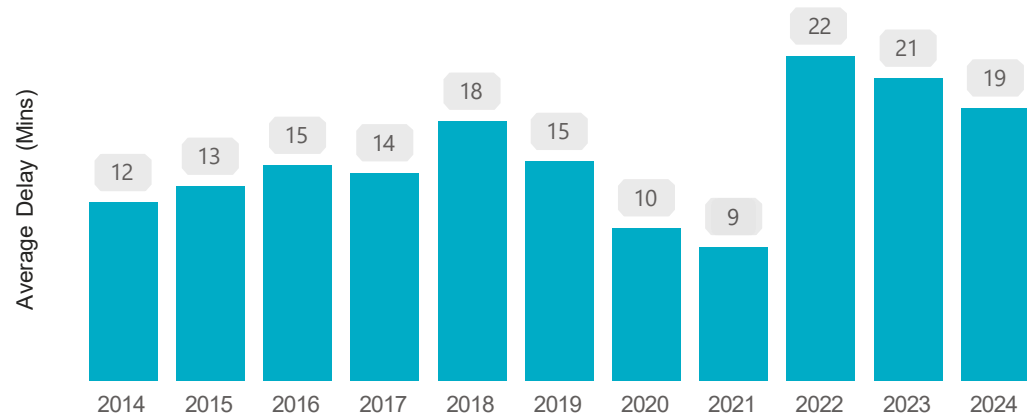*Punctuality* (NB: 2024 values are year-to-date and will update throughout the year)

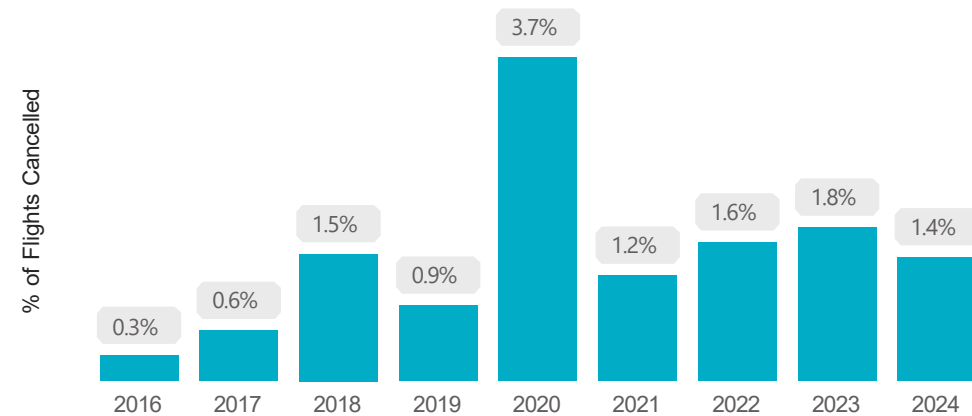## % On-time performance (OTP) <15mins

% OTP by month (last five years)

Average delay minutes per flight

% of flights cancelled (within 24hr before departure)
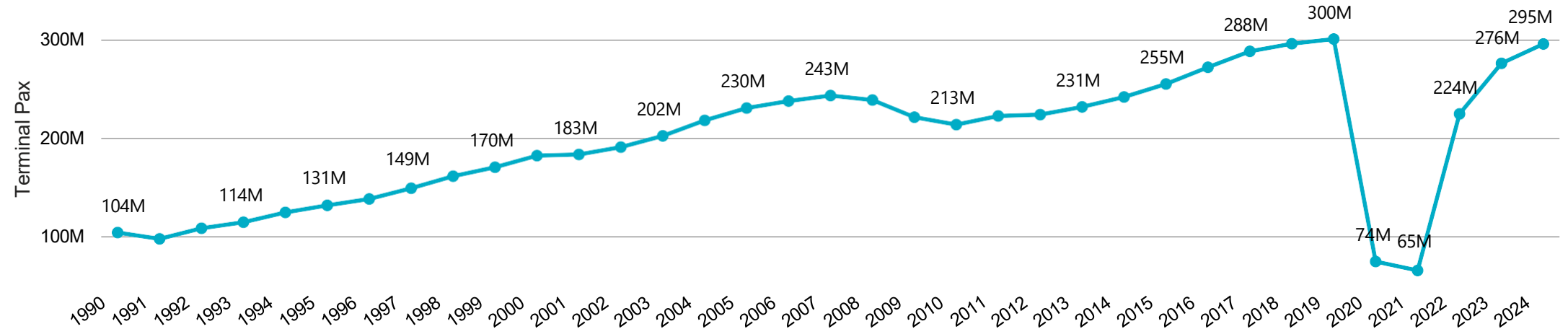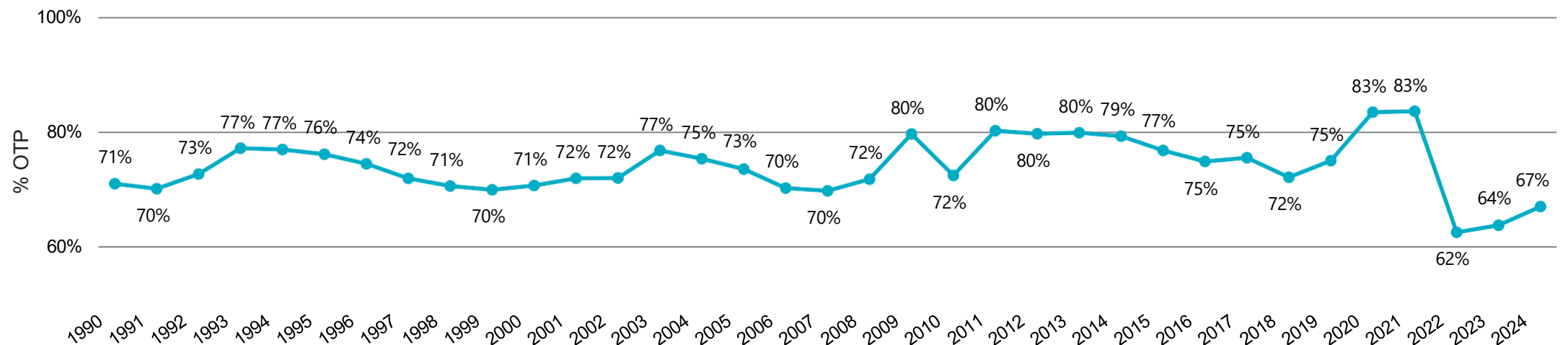

14

Trend since 1990 (30+ years)

Terminal Passengers and % On-Time Performance

Annual UK Terminal Passengers (1990 - 2024)

On-Time Performance (within 15mins of schedule)

Trends since 1990 (30+ years)
Cargo Tonnage

Annual UK Cargo Tonnage (1990 - 2024)